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AMAR CHITRA KATHA

TALES FROM THE PANCHATANTRA

- How the Jackal ate the Elephant
- The Jackal and the War Drum and other Stories
- The Brahmin and the Goat and other Stories

The route to your roots

HOW THE JACKAL ATE THE ELEPHANT

In Vishnu Sharma's famous Panchatantra tales, animals talk and act like humans. A wily jackal or a deceiving donkey, an impetuous frog-king or an arrogant lion often mirror our everyday world. Through these tales the master storyteller reveals the secret of living life wisely yet happily to generations of readers all over the world.

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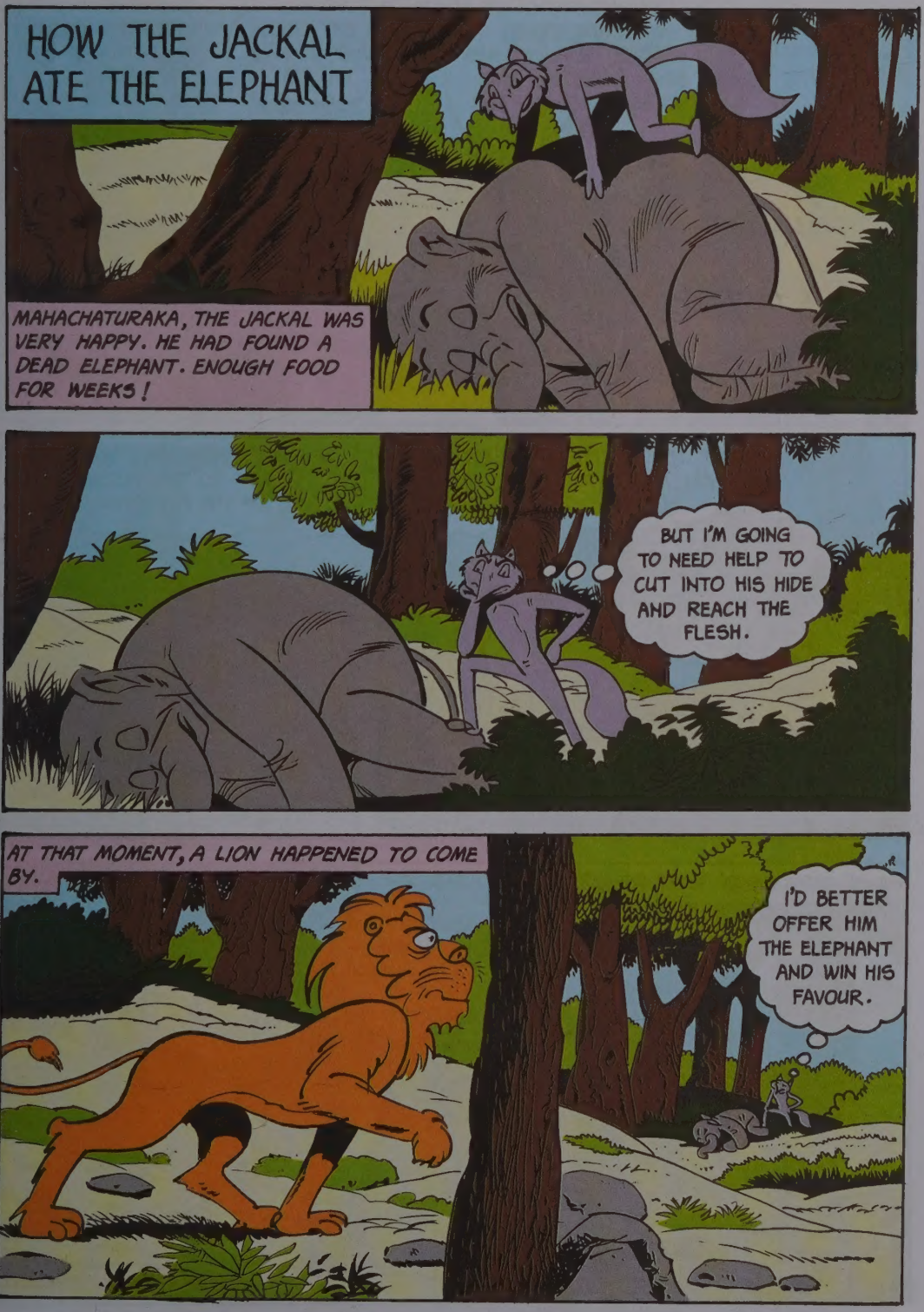

HOW THE JACKAL ATE THE ELEPHANT
MAHACHATURAKA, THE JACKAL WAS VERY HAPPY. HE HAD FOUND A DEAD ELEPHANT. ENOUGH FOOD FOR WEEKS!
BUT I'M GOING TO NEED HELP TO CUT INTO HIS HIDE AND REACH THE FLESH.
AT THAT MOMENT, A LION HAPPENED TO COME BY.
I'D BETTER OFFER HIM THE ELEPHANT AND WIN HIS FAVOUR.

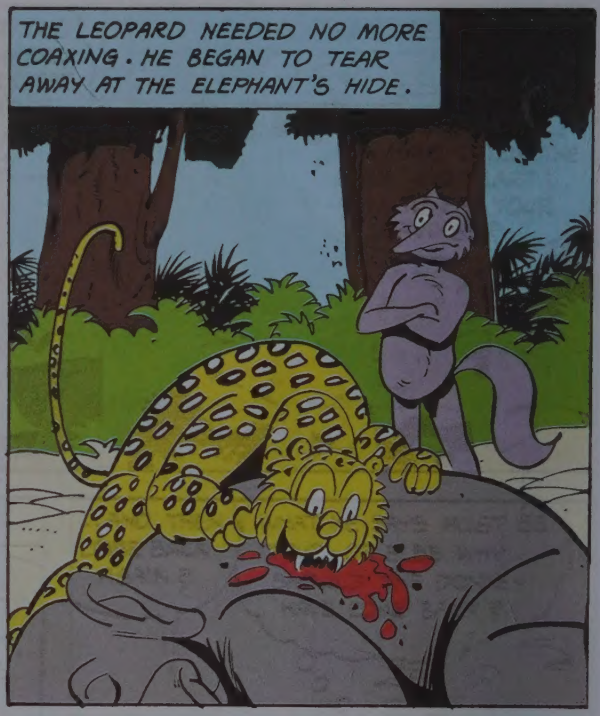
MY LORD, YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT HAS BEEN GUARDING THIS DEAD ELEPHANT FOR YOU.
I EAT ONLY WHAT I HAVE KILLED.
DON'T I KNOW THAT!
I GIFT THIS ELEPHANT TO YOU, MY LOYAL SERVANT.
JUST AS I HAD EXPECTED.
BUT HOW AM I TO GET TO THE FLESH OF THE ELEPHANT?
AS HE WONDERED WHAT TO DO, A TIGER CAME BY.
OH! OH! I SENT OFF ONE FELLOW BY PRETENDING TO BE HUMBLE. HOW SHALL I SEND THIS ONE PACKING?

HE'S NOT ONE TO BE FLATTERED. I'LL HAVE TO THINK FAST.
CUNNING! THAT'S IT! I'LL RESORT TO CUNNING!
UNCLE! IT'S DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO BE HERE. THE LION WHO KILLED THIS ELEPHANT HAS GONE TO BATHE LEAVING ME HERE TO GUARD IT.
HE HATES TIGERS. ONE OF THEM ONCE ATE THE ELEPHANT HE HAD KILLED AND HE HAD TO EAT THE LEAVINGS.

HE HAS SWORN TO KILL EVERY TIGER HE MEETS IN THIS FOREST.
THANK YOU FOR WARNING ME, DEAR NEPHEW. DON'T TELL HIM YOU SAW ME. I'M OFF.
HA! HA! HA! HO! LOOK AT HIM RUN.
BUT I STILL HAVEN'T GOT TO THE FLESH OF THIS ELEPHANT!

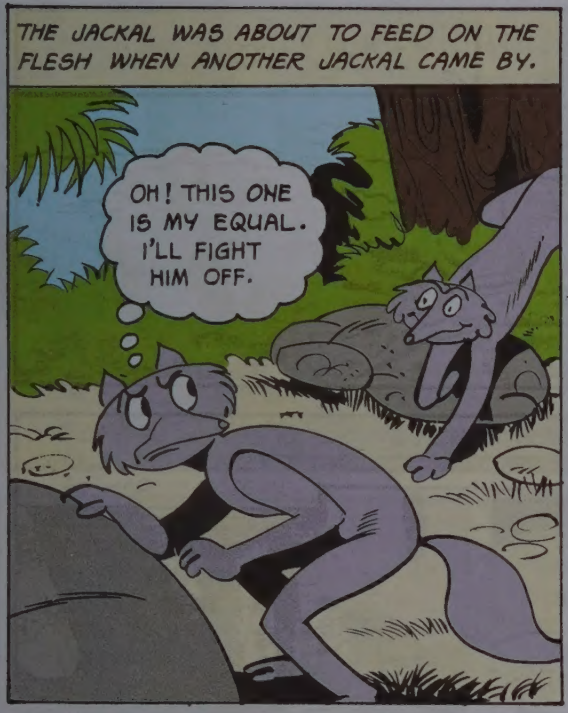
JUST THEN, HE SAW A LEOPARD COMING TOWARDS HIM.
THAT'S THE FELLOW I'LL USE! HE HAS STRONG TEETH AND WILL CUT THROUGH THE HIDE IN NO TIME. THEN I'LL SEND HIM PACKING.
WELL, WELL, MY NEPHEW! YOU SEEM HUNGRY.
I AM. THAT'S A FINE ELEPHANT YOU HAVE THERE.
ISN'T IT? IT WAS KILLED BY A LION WHO LEFT ME HERE TO GUARD IT. BUT YOU MAY EAT SOME OF IT BEFORE HE GETS BACK, IF YOU'RE QUICK ENOUGH.
A LION, DID YOU SAY? NO! NO! THIS MEAT WOULD BE THE DEATH OF ME, IF I DON'T ESCAPE IN TIME!

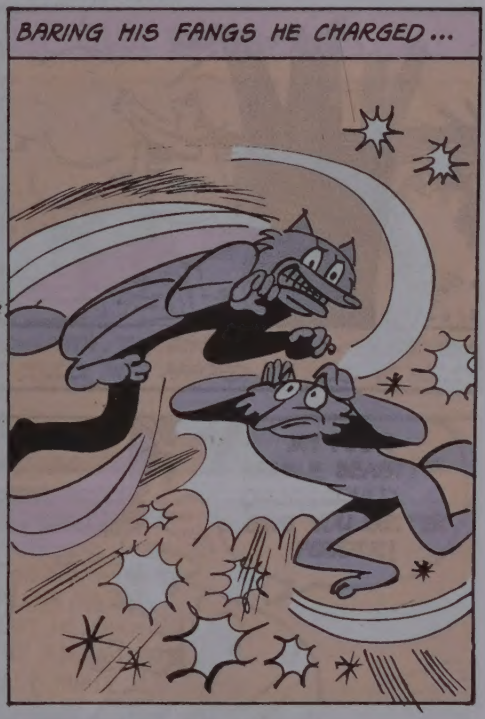
COME ON. BE BOLD AND EAT. I'LL KEEP WATCH AND WARN YOU, IF I SEE HIM COMING.

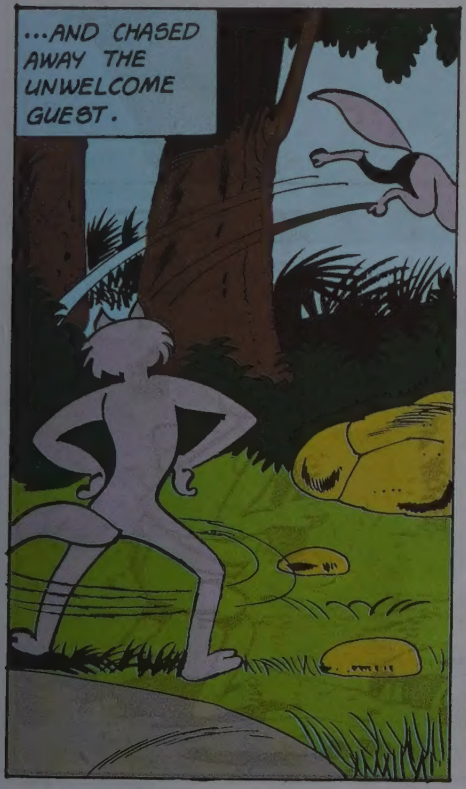

THE LEOPARD NEEDED NO MORE COAXING. HE BEGAN TO TEAR AWAY AT THE ELEPHANT'S HIDE.

AS SOON AS THE HIDE WAS CUT THROUGH —
HERE COMES THE LION. QUICK! RUN OFF!

THE LEOPARD DID NOT EVEN STOP TO LOOK UP. TURNING ON HIS HEELS, HE RAN FOR HIS LIFE.

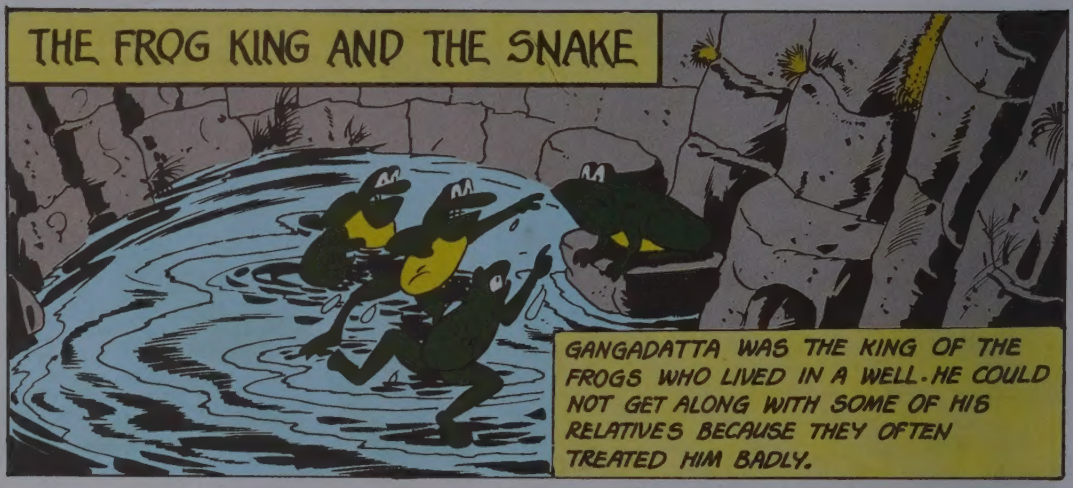

THE JACKAL WAS ABOUT TO FEED ON THE FLESH WHEN ANOTHER JACKAL CAME BY.
OH! THIS ONE IS MY EQUAL. I'LL FIGHT HIM OFF.

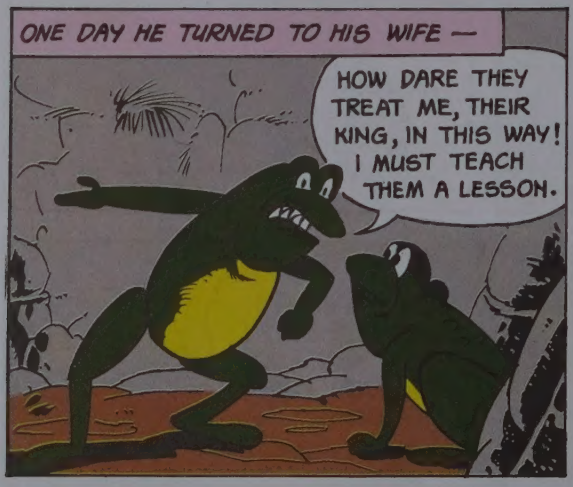

BARING HIS FANGS HE CHARGED...


...AND CHASED AWAY THE UNWELCOME GUEST.

ALL THIS MEAT! ALL FOR MYSELF! I NEED NOT LOOK FOR FOOD FOR WEEKS.
MORAL: MIGHTY BRAWN IS NO MATCH AGAINST NIMBLE BRAIN.

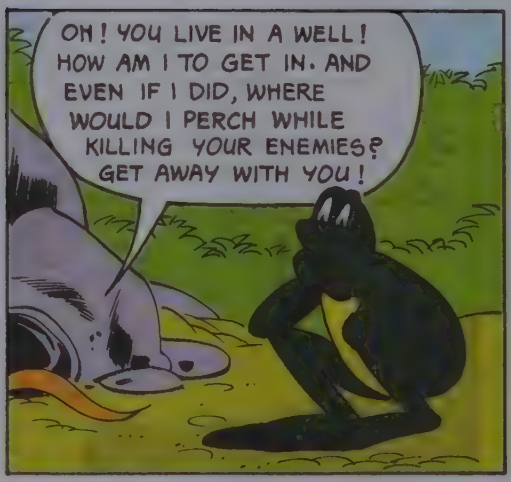
THE FROG KING AND THE SNAKE


GANGADATTA WAS THE KING OF THE FROGS WHO LIVED IN A WELL. HE COULD NOT GET ALONG WITH SOME OF HIS RELATIVES BECAUSE THEY OFTEN TREATED HIM BADLY.

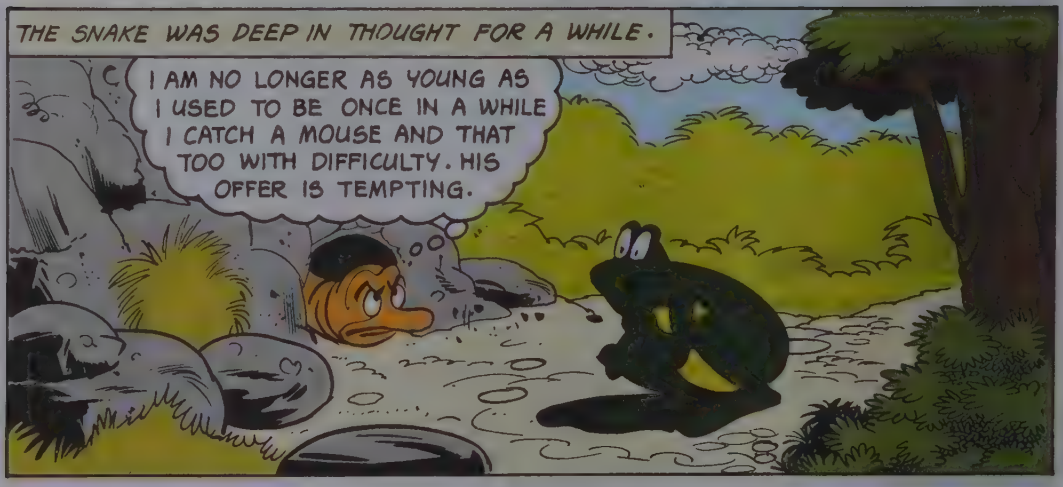


... AND CAME OUT OF THE WELL. JUST THEN HE SAW PRIYADARSHANA, THE SNAKE, SLIDE INTO HIS HOLE
AH! I'LL ASK HIM TO BE MY GUEST AND EAT MY WICKED RELATIVES.

HEY, PRIYA-DARSHANA! COME OUT.
THAT'S NO SNAKE CALLING ME. AND I DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS APART FROM SNAKES. PERHAPS IT'S A SNAKE CHARMER!
COME OUT, PRIYADARSHANA. I AM GANGADATTA, THE FROG-KING. I WANT TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH YOU.
IMPOSSIBLE! CAN HAY EVER MAKE FRIENDS WITH FIRE? WHAT YOU SAY MAKES NO SENSE.
I AGREE THAT WE ARE BORN ENEMIES. NEVERTHE-LESS, I NEED YOUR HELP. I WANT YOU TO EAT MY ENEMIES.
WHO ARE THESE ENEMIES?
MY OWN RELATIVES. THEY LIVE IN THE SAME WELL AS I DO.

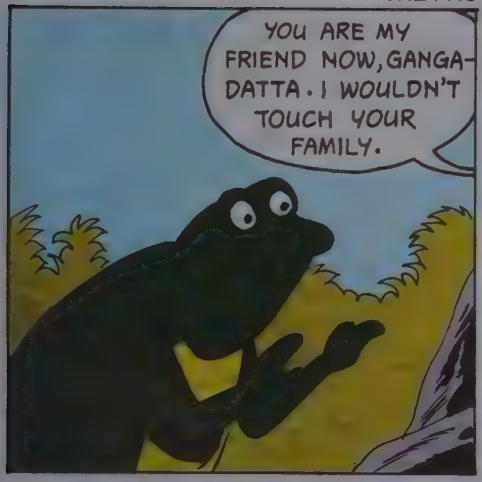

OH! YOU LIVE IN A WELL! HOW AM I TO GET IN. AND EVEN IF I DID, WHERE WOULD I PERCH WHILE KILLING YOUR ENEMIES? GET AWAY WITH YOU!

WAIT, MY FRIEND, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO GET INTO THE WELL. AND I'LL ALSO SHOW YOU A COMFORTABLE HOLE, A LITTLE ABOVE THE WATER, WHERE YOU CAN REST. PLEASE COME OUT.

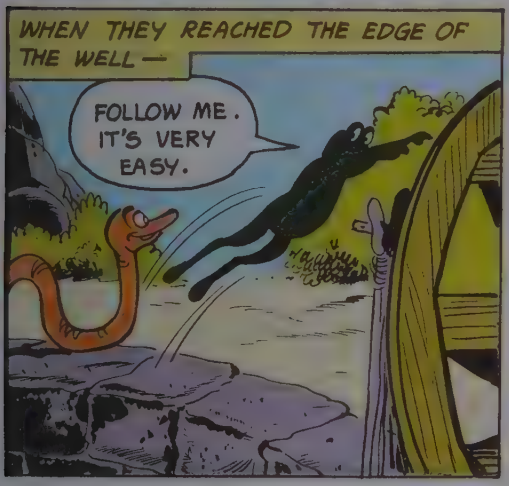

THE SNAKE WAS DEEP IN THOUGHT FOR A WHILE.
I AM NO LONGER AS YOUNG AS I USED TO BE ONCE IN A WHILE I CATCH A MOUSE AND THAT TOO WITH DIFFICULTY. HIS OFFER IS TEMPTING.

WELL, GANGADATTA, I HAVE DECIDED TO COME WITH YOU! LEAD AND I'LL FOLLOW.

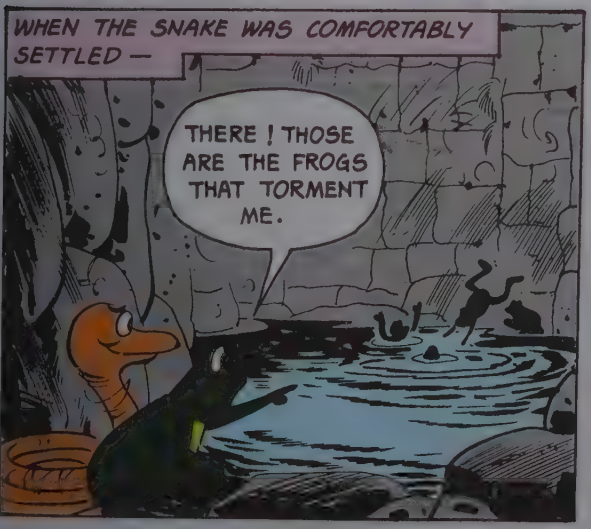
THANK YOU, MY FRIEND. BUT THERE'S ONE THING. YOU MUST SPARE MY OWN FAMILY AND EAT ONLY THOSE WHOM I TELL YOU TO EAT.


YOU ARE MY FRIEND NOW, GANGA-DATTA. I WOULDN'T TOUCH YOUR FAMILY.

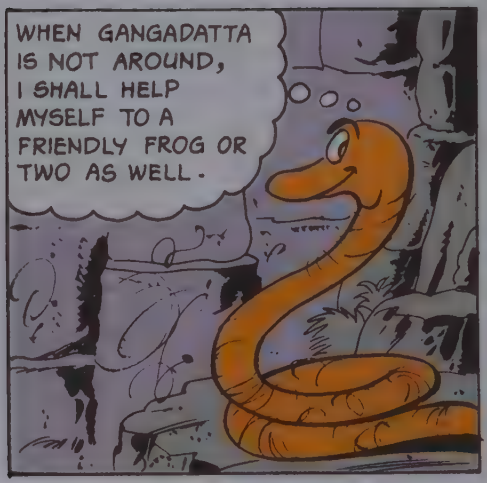
THE SNAKE THEN CAME OUT OF HIS HOLE.
COME. LET US NOT WASTE ANY TIME.

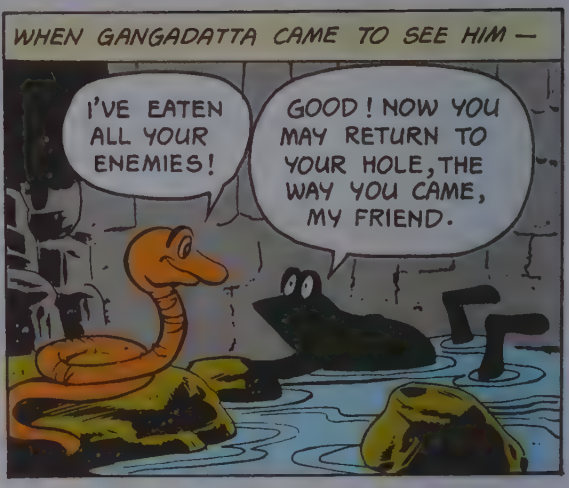

WHEN THEY REACHED THE EDGE OF THE WELL —
FOLLOW ME. IT'S VERY EASY.

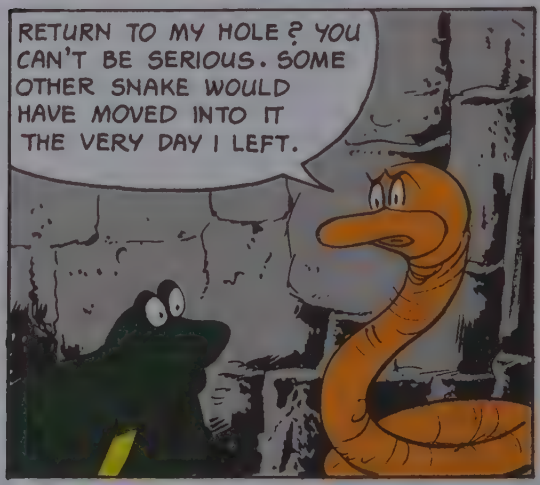
A LITTLE LATER —
THAT'S THE HOLE. SETTLE YOURSELF THERE.


WHEN THE SNAKE WAS COMFORTABLY SETTLED —
THERE ! THOSE ARE THE FROGS THAT TORMENT ME.

ONE BY ONE THE SNAKE SOON ATE UP ALL THE ENEMIES OF THE FROG-KING.

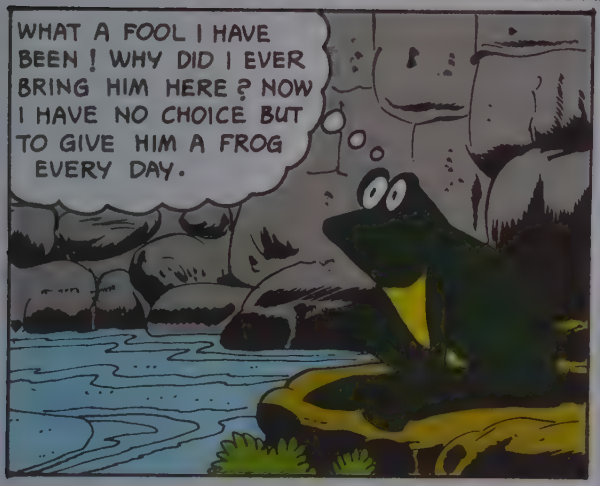

WHEN GANGADATTA IS NOT AROUND, I SHALL HELP MYSELF TO A FRIENDLY FROG OR TWO AS WELL.


WHEN GANGADATTA CAME TO SEE HIM —
I'VE EATEN ALL YOUR ENEMIES!
GOOD! NOW YOU MAY RETURN TO YOUR HOLE, THE WAY YOU CAME, MY FRIEND.


RETURN TO MY HOLE? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS. SOME OTHER SNAKE WOULD HAVE MOVED INTO IT THE VERY DAY I LEFT.

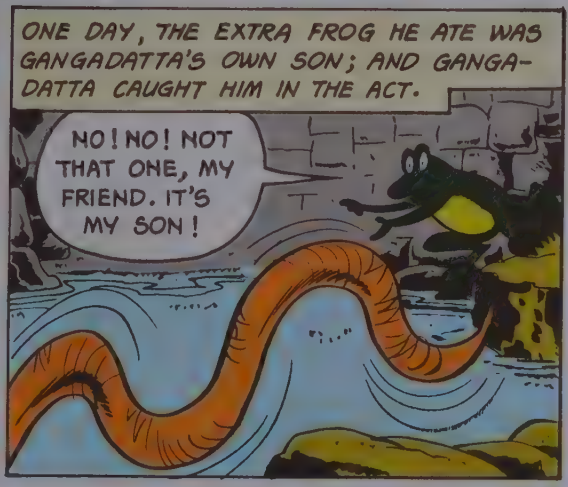
NO, MY FRIEND, I WILL HAVE TO STAY HERE. AND SINCE YOU TOOK ME OUT OF MY HOLE, IT IS YOUR DUTY TO FEED ME.

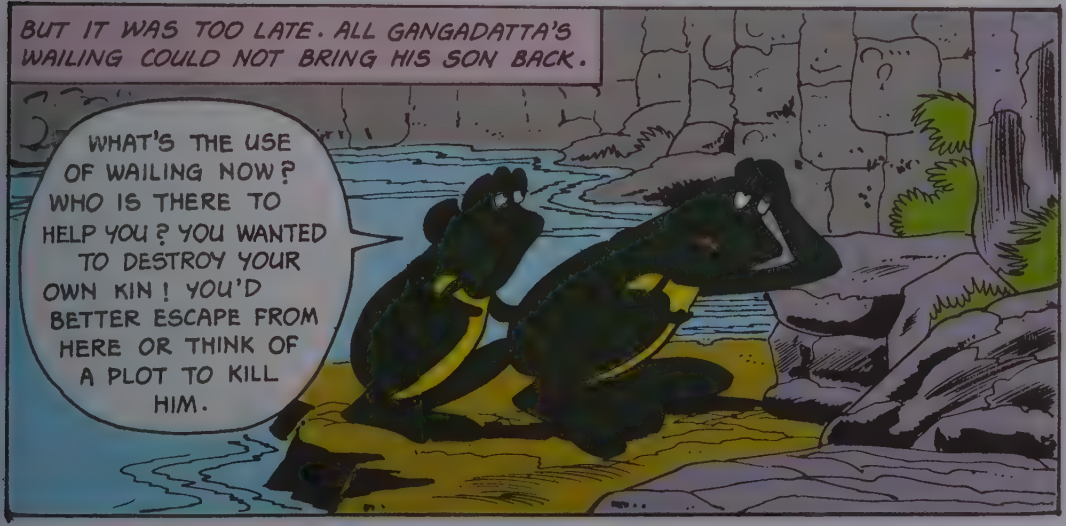
YOU MUST GIVE ME ONE FROG AT A TIME, FROM YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR OWN FAMILY. IF YOU DON'T, I'LL EAT YOU ALL UP.

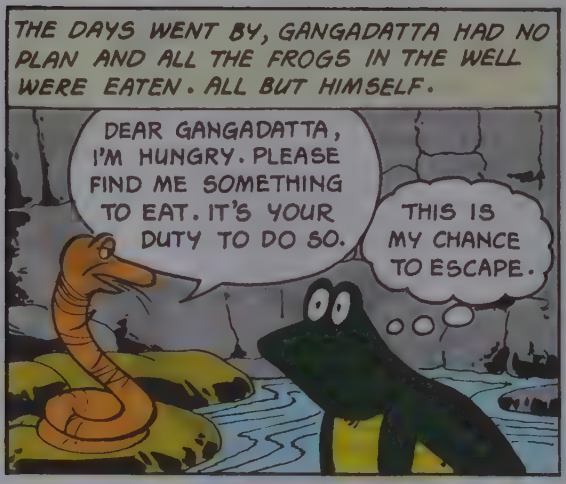

WHAT A FOOL I HAVE BEEN ! WHY DID I EVER BRING HIM HERE ? NOW I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GIVE HIM A FROG EVERY DAY.

THE SNAKE HOWEVER NOT ONLY ATE THE FROG SENT TO HIM...

...BUT ANOTHER TOO BEHIND THE FROG-KING'S BACK.

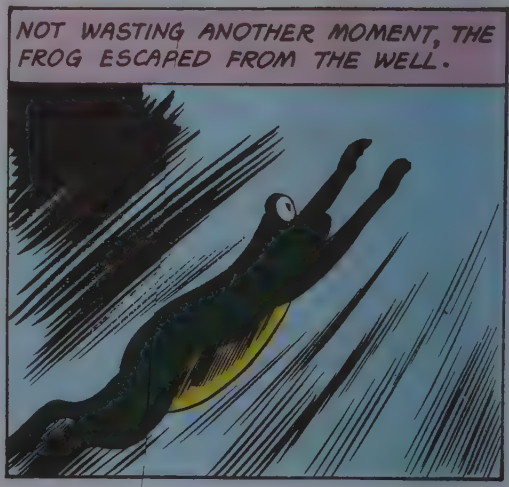

ONE DAY, THE EXTRA FROG HE ATE WAS GANGADATTA'S OWN SON; AND GANGA-DATTA CAUGHT HIM IN THE ACT.
NO ! NO ! NOT THAT ONE, MY FRIEND. IT'S MY SON !


BUT IT WAS TOO LATE. ALL GANGADATTA'S WAILING COULD NOT BRING HIS SON BACK.
WHAT'S THE USE OF WAILING NOW ? WHO IS THERE TO HELP YOU ? YOU WANTED TO DESTROY YOUR OWN KIN ! YOU'D BETTER ESCAPE FROM HERE OR THINK OF A PLOT TO KILL HIM.

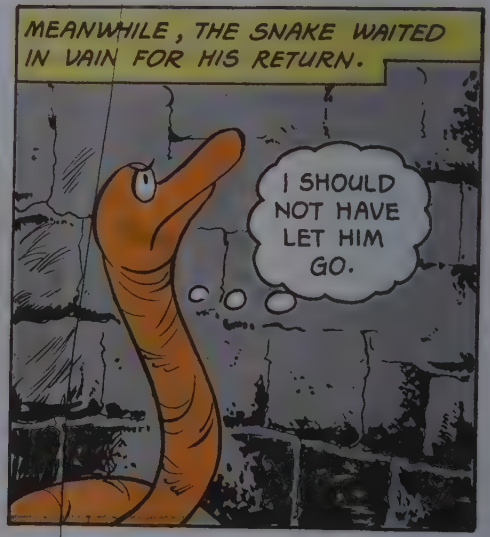

THE DAYS WENT BY, GANGADATTA HAD NO PLAN AND ALL THE FROGS IN THE WELL WERE EATEN. ALL BUT HIMSELF.
DEAR GANGADATTA, I'M HUNGRY. PLEASE FIND ME SOMETHING TO EAT. IT'S YOUR DUTY TO DO SO.
THIS IS MY CHANCE TO ESCAPE.

MY FRIEND, AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE YOU WON'T GO HUNGRY. PERMIT ME TO LEAVE THIS WELL AND I'LL BRING YOU ALL THE FROGS FROM OTHER WELLS.

YOU, WHO HAVE BEEN LIKE A BROTHER TO ME, I'LL NEVER EAT NOW. IF YOU DO AS YOU PROMISE, YOU WILL BE LIKE A FATHER TO ME.

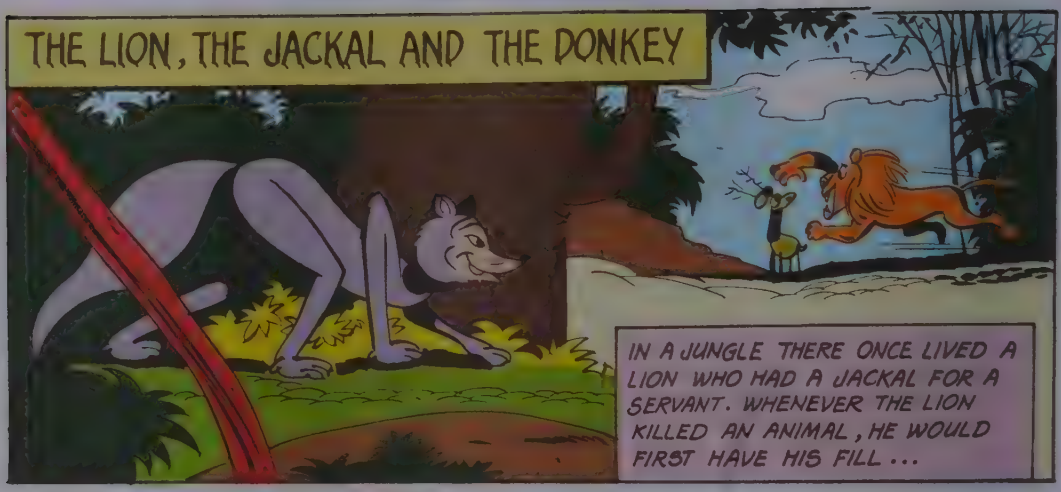

NOT WASTING ANOTHER MOMENT, THE FROG ESCAPED FROM THE WELL.

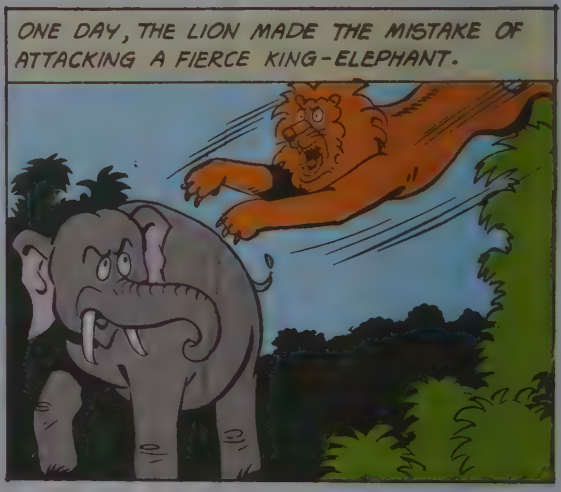
I'D BETTER FIND MYSELF ANOTHER WELL TO LIVE IN.

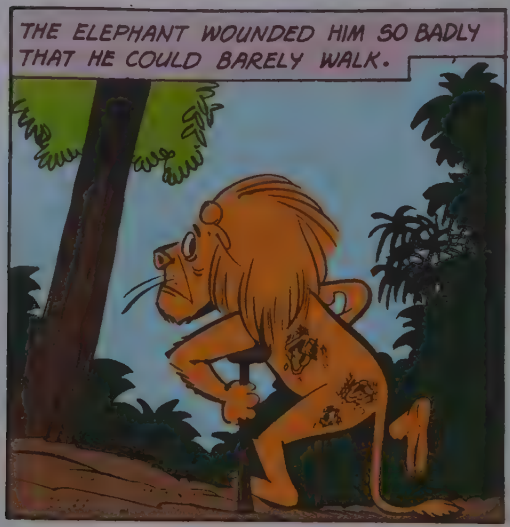

MEANWHILE, THE SNAKE WAITED IN VAIN FOR HIS RETURN.
I SHOULD NOT HAVE LET HIM GO.

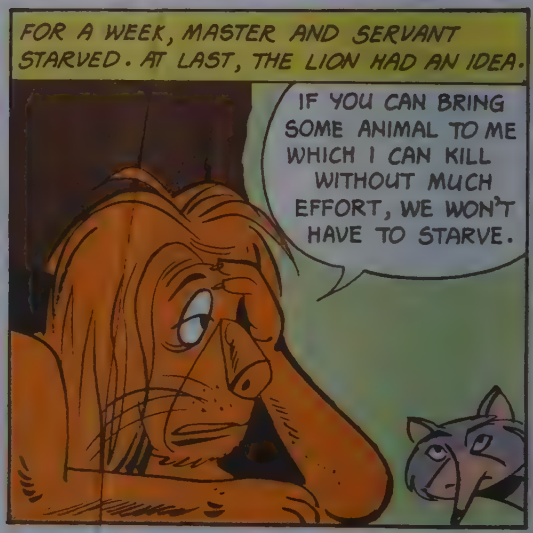
MANY DAYS LATER, THE OLD SNAKE TURNED TO A LIZARD WHO LIVED IN THE SAME WELL.
MADAM, YOU AND GANGADATTA ARE OLD FRIENDS. PLEASE FIND HIM AND ASK HIM TO RETURN QUICKLY. NEVER MIND IF HE CAN'T GET OTHER FROGS TO COME.
TELL HIM THAT I WILL NOT HURT HIM; THAT I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT HIM.
AFTER HUNTING IN ALL THE NEIGH-BOURING WELLS, THE LIZARD AT LAST FOUND THE FROG-KING.
DEAR GANGADATTA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? YOUR FRIEND, PRIYADARSHANA IS ANXIOUSLY AWAITING YOUR RETURN. HE PROMISES NOT TO HARM YOU. SO COME HOME.
A STARVING MAN IS NOT TO BE TRUSTED. I'VE LEARNT MY LESSON. HE WILL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN.
MORAL: DON'T CUT OFF YOUR NOSE TO SPITE YOUR FACE.

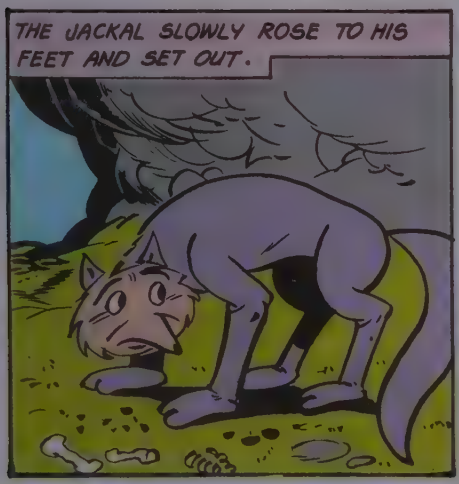
THE LION, THE JACKAL AND THE DONKEY


IN A JUNGLE THERE ONCE LIVED A LION WHO HAD A JACKAL FOR A SERVANT. WHENEVER THE LION KILLED AN ANIMAL, HE WOULD FIRST HAVE HIS FILL ...

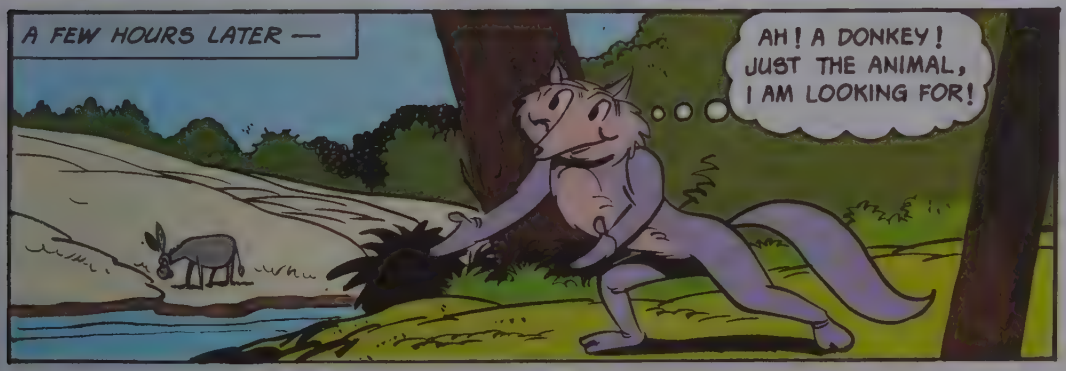


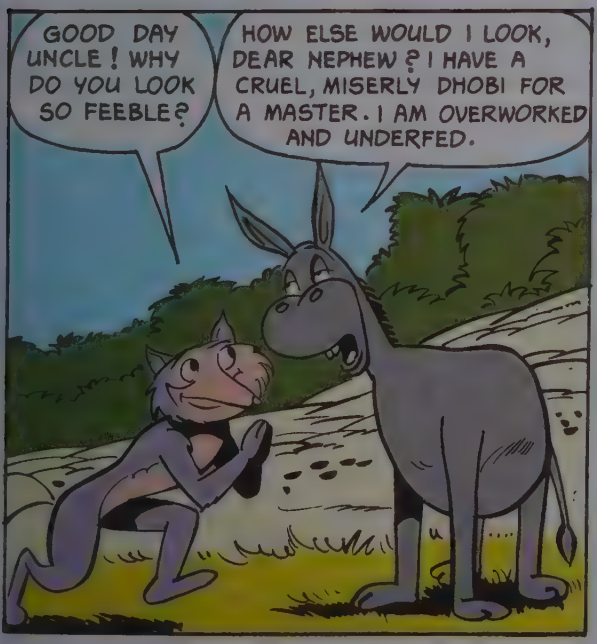


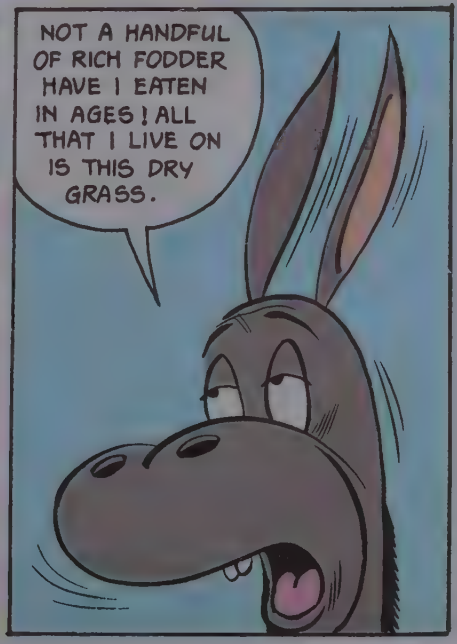

FOR A WEEK, MASTER AND SERVANT STARVED. AT LAST, THE LION HAD AN IDEA.
IF YOU CAN BRING SOME ANIMAL TO ME WHICH I CAN KILL WITHOUT MUCH EFFORT, WE WON'T HAVE TO STARVE.

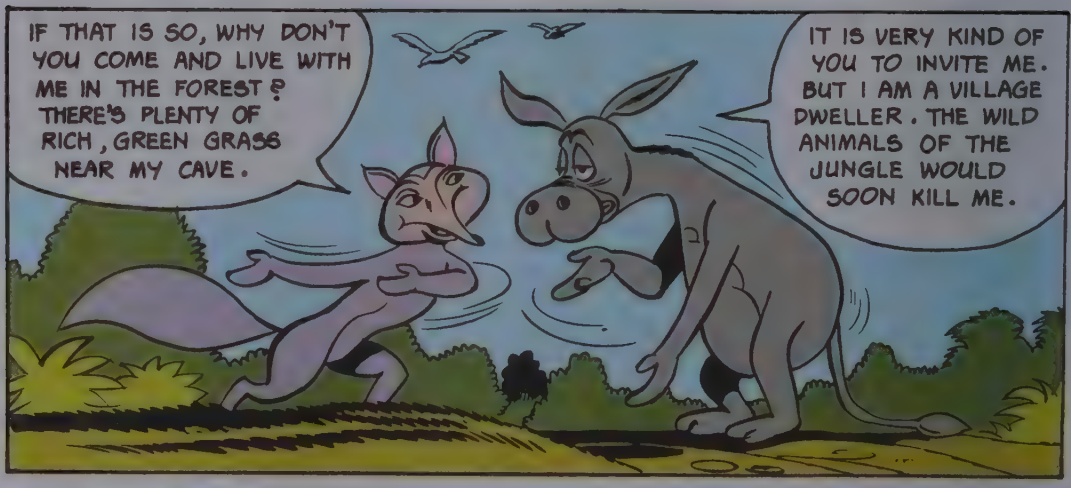

THE JACKAL SLOWLY ROSE TO HIS FEET AND SET OUT.

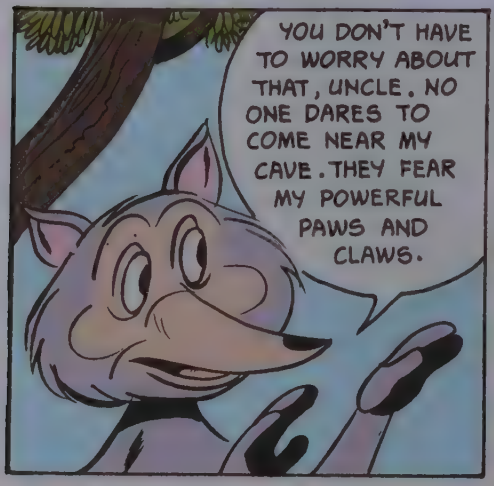
THAT'S A FINE DEER BUT TOO FAST FOR MY WOUNDED MASTER.

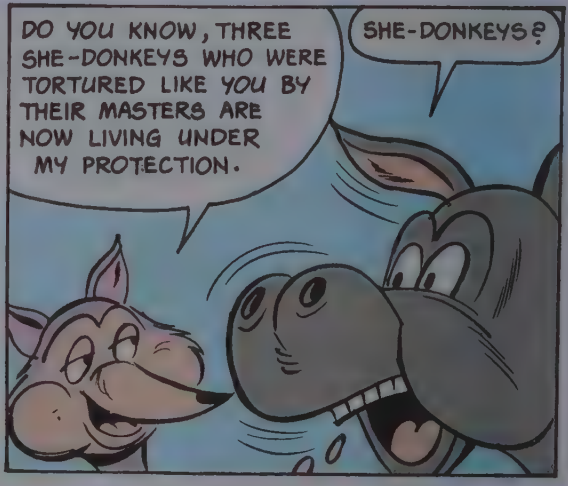

A FEW HOURS LATER —
AH! A DONKEY! JUST THE ANIMAL, I AM LOOKING FOR!

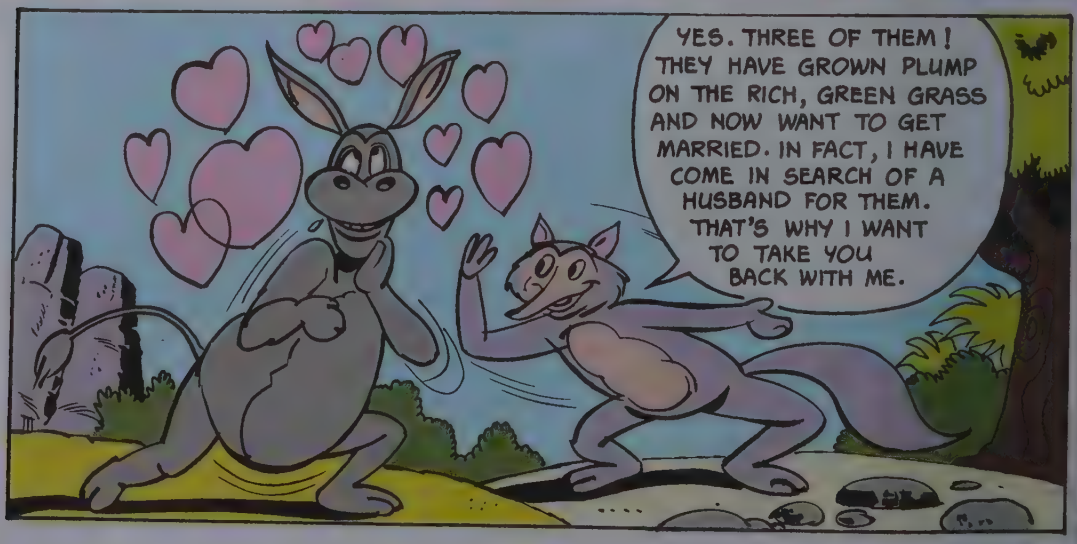

GOOD DAY UNCLE! WHY DO YOU LOOK SO FEEBLE?
HOW ELSE WOULD I LOOK, DEAR NEPHEW? I HAVE A CRUEL, MISERLY DHOBI FOR A MASTER. I AM OVERWORKED AND UNDERFED.


NOT A HANDFUL OF RICH FODDER HAVE I EATEN IN AGES! ALL THAT I LIVE ON IS THIS DRY GRASS.


IF THAT IS SO, WHY DON'T YOU COME AND LIVE WITH ME IN THE FOREST? THERE'S PLENTY OF RICH, GREEN GRASS NEAR MY CAVE.
IT IS VERY KIND OF YOU TO INVITE ME. BUT I AM A VILLAGE DWELLER. THE WILD ANIMALS OF THE JUNGLE WOULD SOON KILL ME.

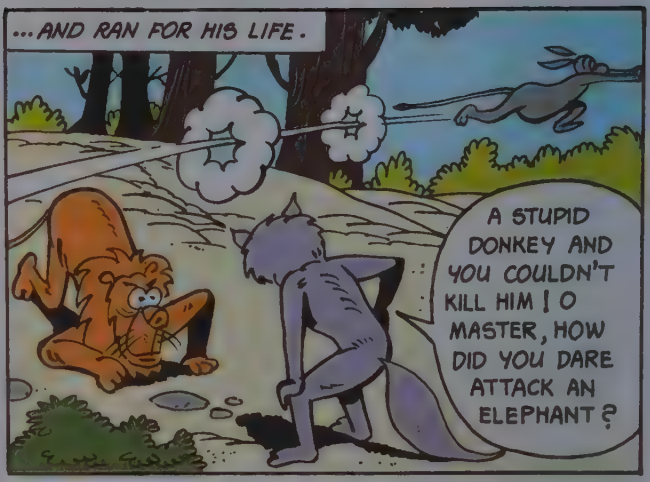

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT, UNCLE. NO ONE DARES TO COME NEAR MY CAVE. THEY FEAR MY POWERFUL PAWS AND CLAWS.

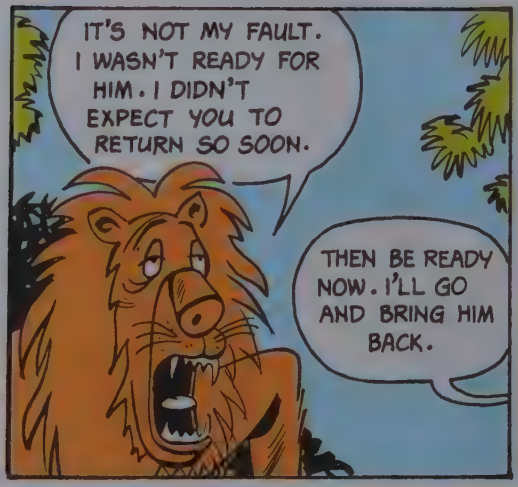

DO YOU KNOW, THREE SHE-DONKEYS WHO WERE TORTURED LIKE YOU BY THEIR MASTERS ARE NOW LIVING UNDER MY PROTECTION.
SHE-DONKEYS?


YES. THREE OF THEM! THEY HAVE GROWN PLUMP ON THE RICH, GREEN GRASS AND NOW WANT TO GET MARRIED. IN FACT, I HAVE COME IN SEARCH OF A HUSBAND FOR THEM. THAT'S WHY I WANT TO TAKE YOU BACK WITH ME.

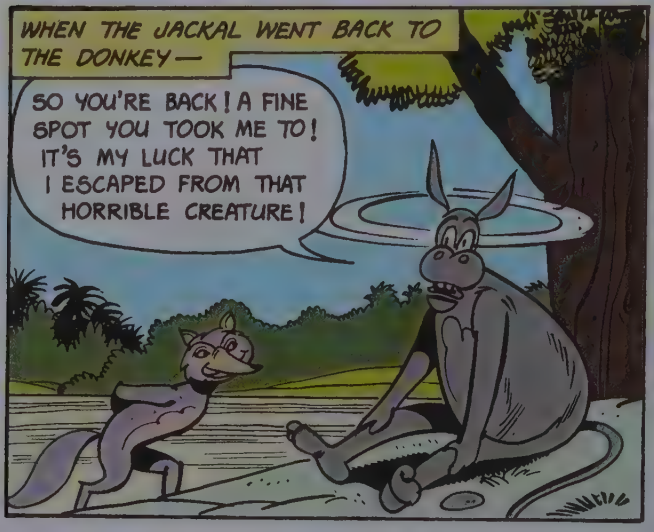
LEAD ME TO THEM, DEAR NEPHEW. I TOO AM LOOKING FOR A BRIDE.
AND THE POOR DONKEY FOLLOWED THE JACKAL INTO THE JUNGLE.
FOOD AT LAST!
WHAT WAS THAT?
THE HASTY FOOL!

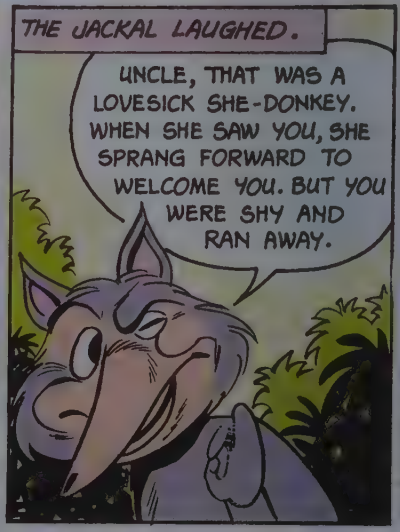
THE TERRIFIED DONKEY TOOK ONE LOOK AT THE LION...


...AND RAN FOR HIS LIFE.
A STUPID DONKEY AND YOU COULDN'T KILL HIM! O MASTER, HOW DID YOU DARE ATTACK AN ELEPHANT?


IT'S NOT MY FAULT. I WASN'T READY FOR HIM. I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO RETURN SO SOON.
THEN BE READY NOW. I'LL GO AND BRING HIM BACK.

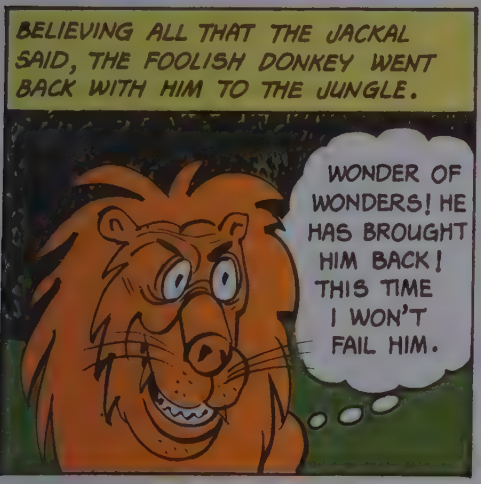
BRING HIM BACK? IMPOSSIBLE! HE SAW ME AND RAN AWAY. YOU'LL HAVE TO BRING SOME OTHER ANIMAL.
I WILL BRING BACK THAT VERY DONKEY. BE READY FOR HIM THIS TIME.

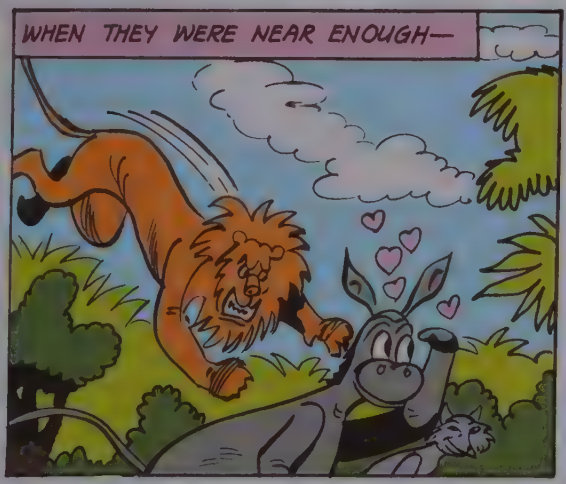

WHEN THE JACKAL WENT BACK TO THE DONKEY—
SO YOU'RE BACK! A FINE SPOT YOU TOOK ME TO! IT'S MY LUCK THAT I ESCAPED FROM THAT HORRIBLE CREATURE!


THE JACKAL LAUGHED.
UNCLE, THAT WAS A LOVESICK SHE-DONKEY. WHEN SHE SAW YOU, SHE SPRANG FORWARD TO WELCOME YOU. BUT YOU WERE SHY AND RAN AWAY.

YOU MUST COME BACK AND MARRY HER. IF YOU DON'T, SHE SAYS SHE'LL STARVE HERSELF TO DEATH.

SHE CAN'T BEAR TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU. SO HAVE MERCY ON HER AND RETURN. IF YOU DON'T, YOU WILL BE GUILTY OF KILLING A LADY AND KAMADEVA* WILL BE ANGRY WITH YOU.

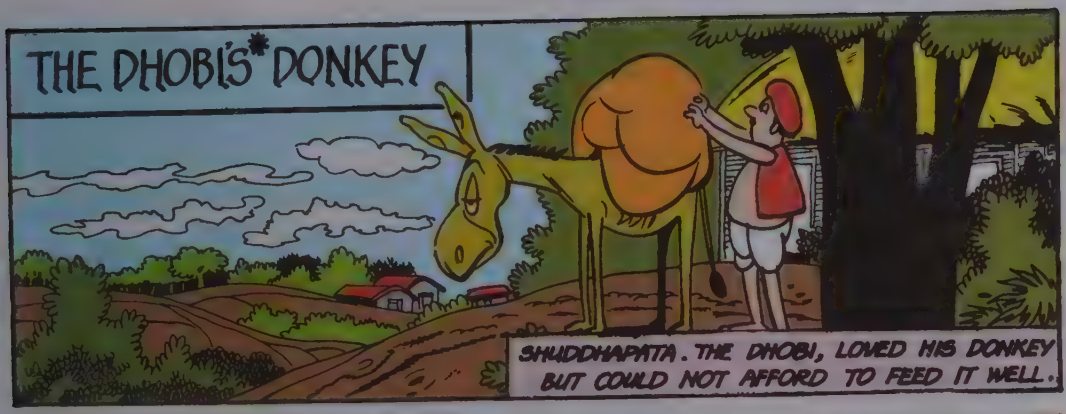

BELIEVING ALL THAT THE JACKAL SAID, THE FOOLISH DONKEY WENT BACK WITH HIM TO THE JUNGLE.
WONDER OF WONDERS! HE HAS BROUGHT HIM BACK! THIS TIME I WON'T FAIL HIM.


WHEN THEY WERE NEAR ENOUGH—

DIDN'T I TELL YOU I WOULD SUCCEED IF I WERE READY? NOW GUARD THIS DONKEY WHILE I GO TO BATHE.

* GOD OF LOVE

I CANNOT WAIT TILL HE RETURNS. WHILE HE IS AWAY, I'LL EAT UP THE DONKEY'S HEART AND EARS.
WHEN THE LION RETURNED, HE BEGAN SNIFFING AT THE DONKEY. SUDDENLY, HE BEGAN TO ROAR.
YOU SCOUNDREL! YOU HAVE EATEN THE EARS AND HEART! AM I TO EAT YOUR LEAVINGS?
BUT THE JACKAL WAS NOT FRIGHTENED. CALMLY HE FACED THE LION.
O KING, THIS CREATURE WAS BORN WITHOUT EARS OR HEART. IF NOT, WOULD HE HAVE COME HERE, HEARD YOUR ROAR, RUN AWAY IN TERROR...
...AND THEN COME BACK AGAIN?
WHAT HE SAYS MUST BE TRUE. OR ELSE WHY SHOULD THE DONKEY HAVE COME BACK?
ALL RIGHT. I SHALL FIRST HAVE MY FILL OF THIS DONKEY. YOU MAY THEN EAT THE REST.
MORAL: DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD IN THE FACE OF CALAMITIES AND YOU'LL OVER-COME THEM.


THE DHOBI'S* DONKEY
SHUDDHAPATA. THE DHOBI, LOVED HIS DONKEY BUT COULD NOT AFFORD TO FEED IT WELL.

ONE DAY, AS HE WAS RETURNING HOME THROUGH A THICK JUNGLE, THE DONKEY STUMBLED UNDER ITS LOAD, SO WEAK HAD IT BECOME.
MY POOR FEEBLE BEAST! IF ONLY I COULD GIVE YOU BETTER FODDER!

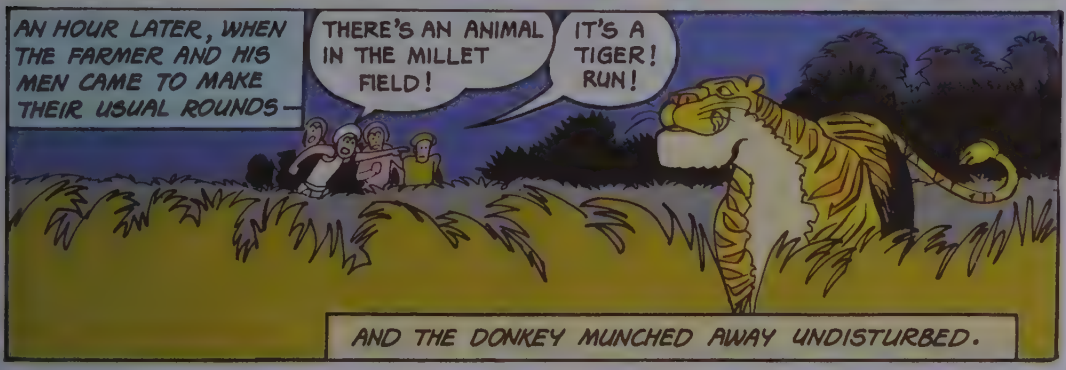
WHAT'S THAT?

OH! A DEAD TIGER! THANK GOD IT WASN'T A LIVE ONE!

*WASHERMAN

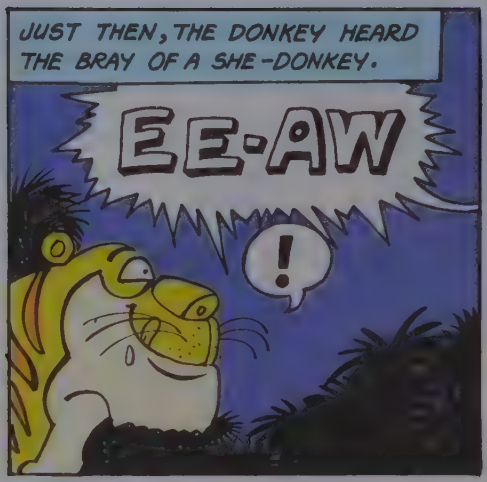
HE WAS ABOUT TO WALK ON, BUT SUDDENLY STOPPED.
THAT'S IT! I'LL FLAY THIS FELLOW AND TAKE THE SKIN HOME. MY DONKEY WILL NO LONGER LACK FOOD.
YOU WILL SOON BECOME A FEARFUL TIGER, MY GENTLE DONKEY, AND EAT ALL THE MILLET YOU WANT.
THERE ! NOW, IN THIS GARB, GO INTO THE MILLET FIELDS AT NIGHT.
THAT NIGHT —
COME. IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO CHANGE.

THE DHOBI THEN LED HIM TO THE MILLET FIELDS.
GO, MY PET, AND EAT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT. I'LL COME BACK FOR YOU IN THE MORNING.


AN HOUR LATER, WHEN THE FARMER AND HIS MEN CAME TO MAKE THEIR USUAL ROUNDS—
THERE'S AN ANIMAL IN THE MILLET FIELD!
IT'S A TIGER! RUN!
AND THE DONKEY MUNCHED AWAY UNDISTURBED.

IN THE MORNING, THE DHOBI LED HIM HOME. THIS WENT ON FOR MANY DAYS.
YOU'VE GROWN SO PLUMP, MY DONKEY. IF YOU GROW ANY PLUMPER, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ENTER YOUR STALL.

ONE NIGHT—
THERE HE IS AGAIN!
WHAT SHALL WE DO? WE'RE HELPLESS.


JUST THEN, THE DONKEY HEARD THE BRAY OF A SHE-DONKEY.
EE-AW
!

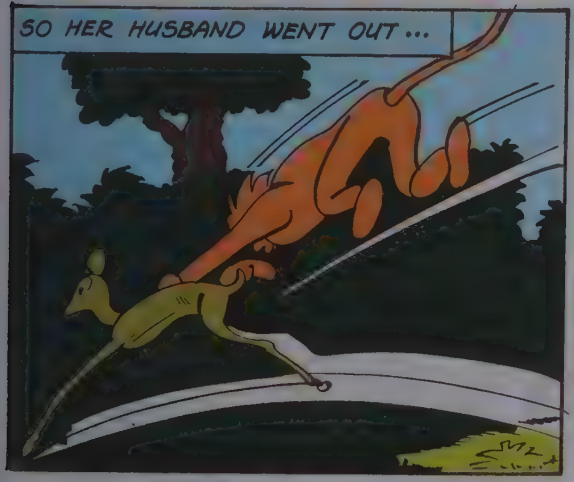
EE-AW

EE-AW EE-AW EE..
WE'VE BEEN DUPED. IT'S ONLY A DONKEY IN DISGUISE!

THE ANGRY FARMER AND HIS MEN CHARGED AT THE DONKEY AND BEAT HIM TO DEATH.

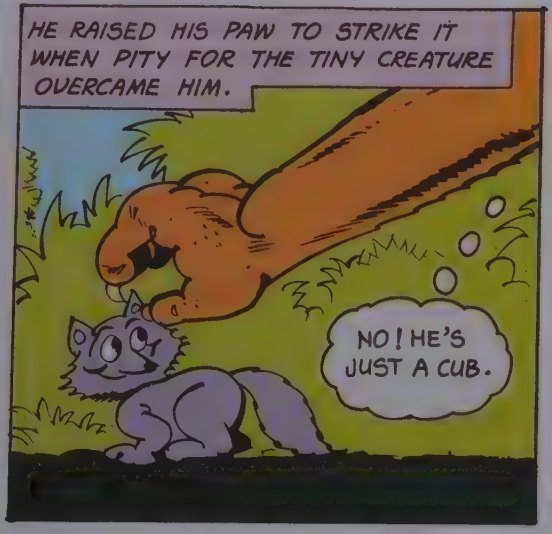
IN THE MORNING, THE DHOBI WAS SHOCKED TO SEE HIS DONKEY DEAD.
ALAS, MY FRIEND! HOW DID IT HAPPEN?
MORAL: SILENCE IS GOLDEN.

THE LIONESS AND THE JACKAL CUB
A LIONESS ONCE GAVE BIRTH TO TWO CUBS AND FOR A TIME COULD NOT GO OUT HUNTING.

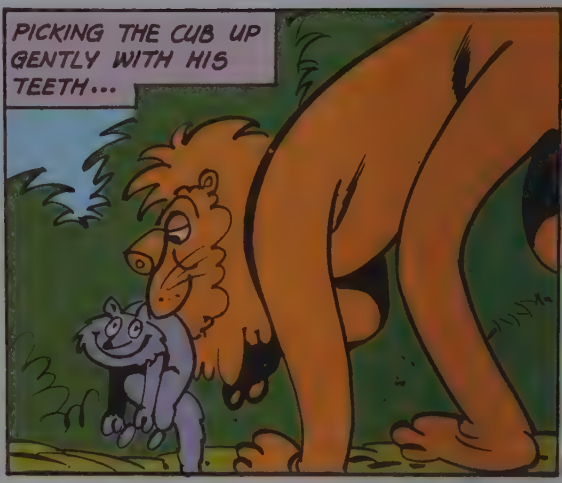

SO HER HUSBAND WENT OUT...

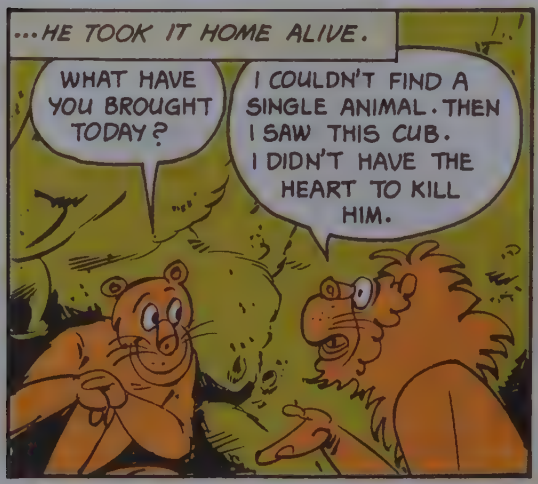
...AND BROUGHT HOME THE GAME HE KILLED.

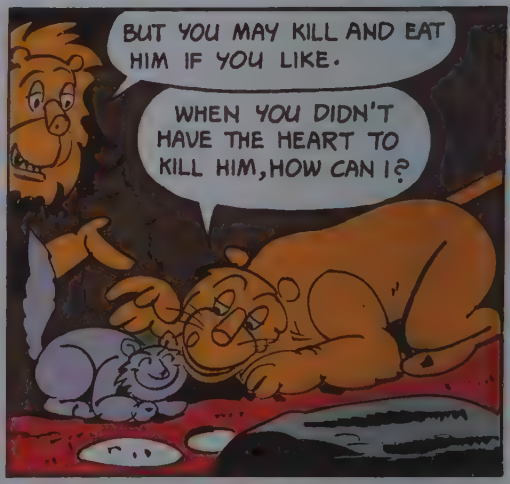
ONE DAY, HE COULD NOT FIND AN ANIMAL TO KILL. AS HE WAS RETURNING HOME —
WHAT'S THAT? A JACKAL CUB?


HE RAISED HIS PAW TO STRIKE IT WHEN PITY FOR THE TINY CREATURE OVERCAME HIM.
NO! HE'S JUST A CUB.

HOW CAN I KILL HIM?


PICKING THE CUB UP GENTLY WITH HIS TEETH...


...HE TOOK IT HOME ALIVE.
WHAT HAVE YOU BROUGHT TODAY?
I COULDN'T FIND A SINGLE ANIMAL. THEN I SAW THIS CUB. I DIDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO KILL HIM.


BUT YOU MAY KILL AND EAT HIM IF YOU LIKE.
WHEN YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO KILL HIM, HOW CAN I?

HE SHALL GROW UP AS MY THIRD SON.

THE THREE CUBS SOON GREW PLUMP AND FRISKY.

ONE DAY —
WHO IS THAT INTRUDER? COME, BROTHERS, LET'S GO AND ATTACK HIM.
WAIT, BROTHERS. DON'T! THAT'S AN ELEPHANT. AN ENEMY OF OUR RACE. LET'S RUN AWAY!
RUN AWAY? HA! HA!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY? I'M GOING TO RUN AWAY. LET THEM FOLLOW IF THEY WANT TO.
LATER AT THE DEN —
...AND, MOTHER, IT WAS SO FUNNY! HO! HO! THE WAY HE PUT HIS TAIL BETWEEN HIS LEGS. HA! HA!...
HO! HO... AND RAN FOR HIS LIFE... HA! HA!

YOU ARE FOOLS. I SHOULD HAVE LET THAT ELEPHANT KILL YOU. I WISH I HADN'T WARNED YOU. I...
CALM DOWN, MY SON. LET US GO OUTSIDE. I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.
WHEN THEY WERE ALONE —
YOU MUST NEVER AGAIN SPEAK LIKE THAT TO THEM. THEY ARE YOUR OLDER BROTHERS.
SO WHAT? DO YOU THINK I AM INFERIOR TO THEM IN ANY WAY? WHY DO THEY MAKE FUN OF ME? I'M GOING TO KILL THEM!

THE LIONESS HELD BACK THE SMILE THAT CAME TO HER LIPS.
POOR CUB. I WILL HAVE TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH— BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.
MY CUB, YOU ARE THE SON OF A JACKAL. I BROUGHT YOU UP BECAUSE YOU WERE HELPLESS.
AS LONG AS MY SONS ARE CUBS, THEY WILL NOT HARM YOU. RUN AWAY AND JOIN YOUR OWN PACK BEFORE THEY KNOW YOU TO BE A JACKAL.
IF YOU DON'T, MY SONS WILL SOONER OR LATER FIGHT YOU AND KILL YOU.
THE POOR JACKAL WAS SO TERRIFIED WHEN HE HEARD THIS, THAT WITHOUT A WORD HE SLUNK AWAY TO FIND HIS OWN PACK.
MORAL: YOU ARE BEST OFF WITH YOUR OWN KIND.

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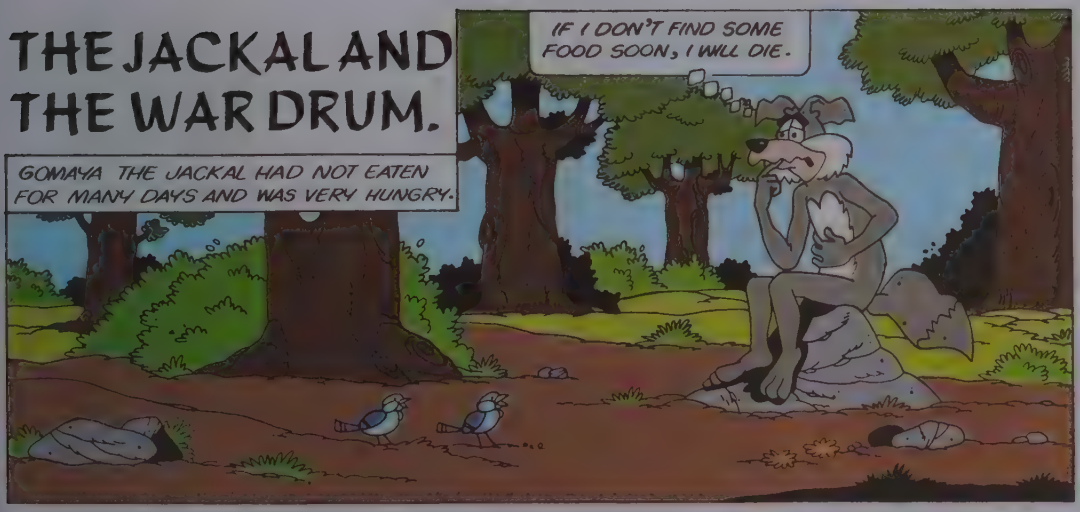
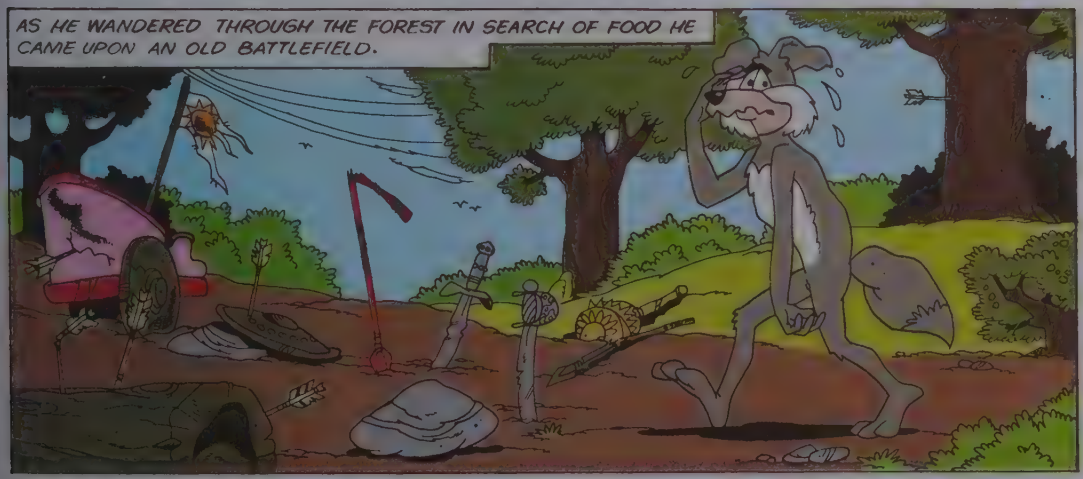
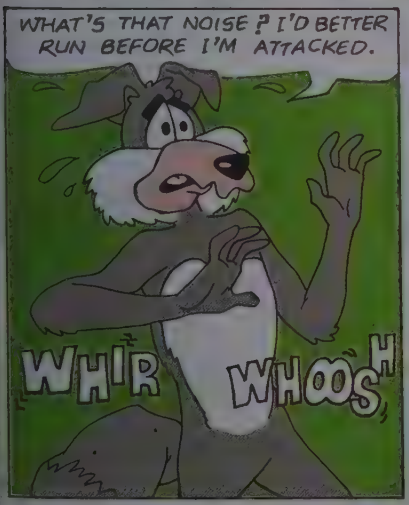
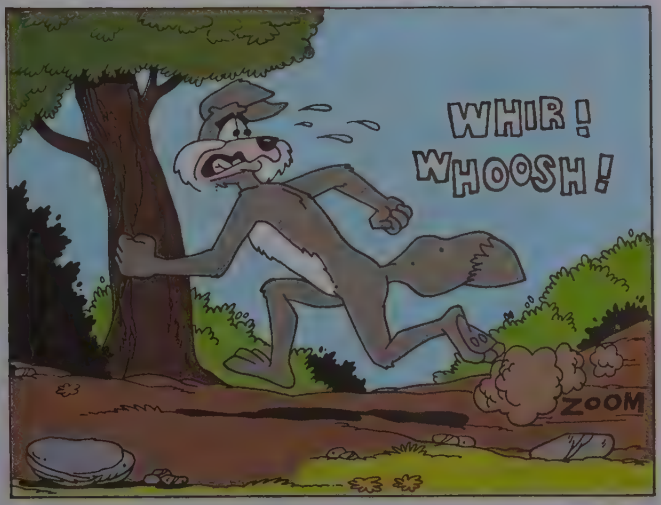
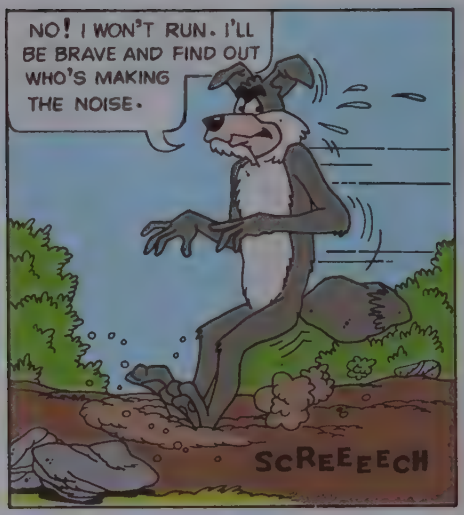
THE JACKAL AND THE WAR DRUM.

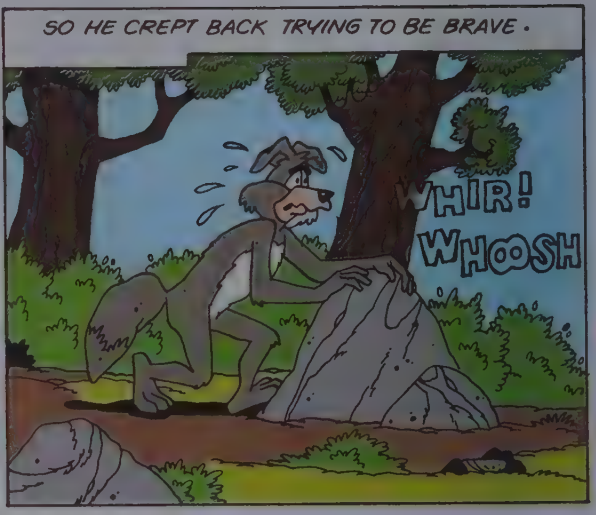


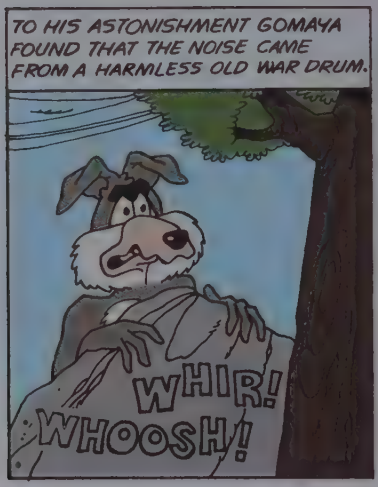


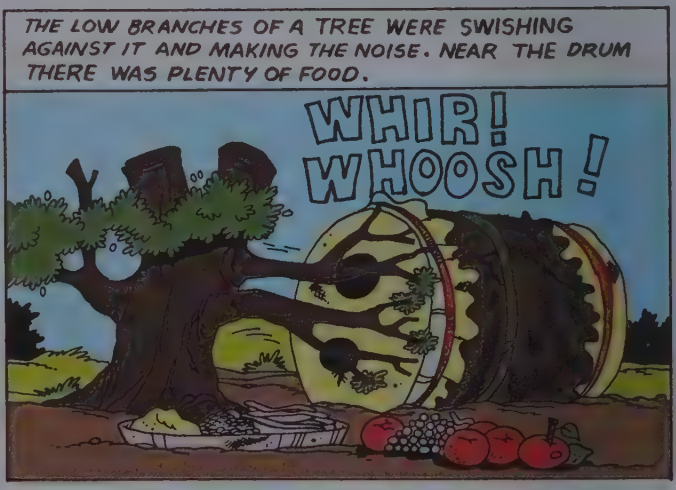


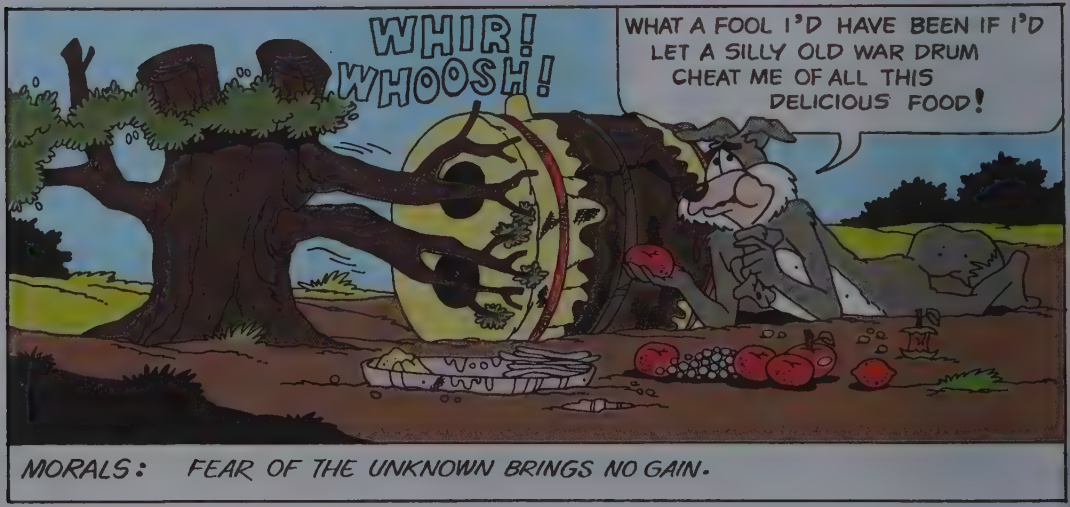



NO! I WON'T RUN. I'LL BE BRAVE AND FIND OUT WHO'S MAKING THE NOISE.
SCREEEECH

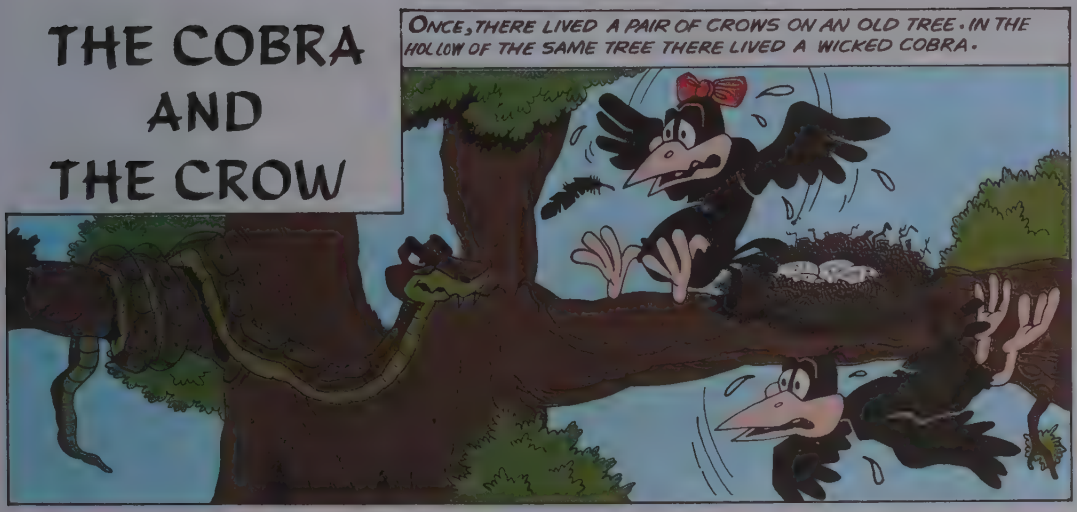

SO HE CREPT BACK TRYING TO BE BRAVE.
WHIR!
WHOOSH


TO HIS ASTONISHMENT GOMAYA FOUND THAT THE NOISE CAME FROM A HARMLESS OLD WAR DRUM.
WHIR!
WHOOSH!


THE LOW BRANCHES OF A TREE WERE SWISHING AGAINST IT AND MAKING THE NOISE. NEAR THE DRUM THERE WAS PLENTY OF FOOD.
WHIR!
WHOOSH!

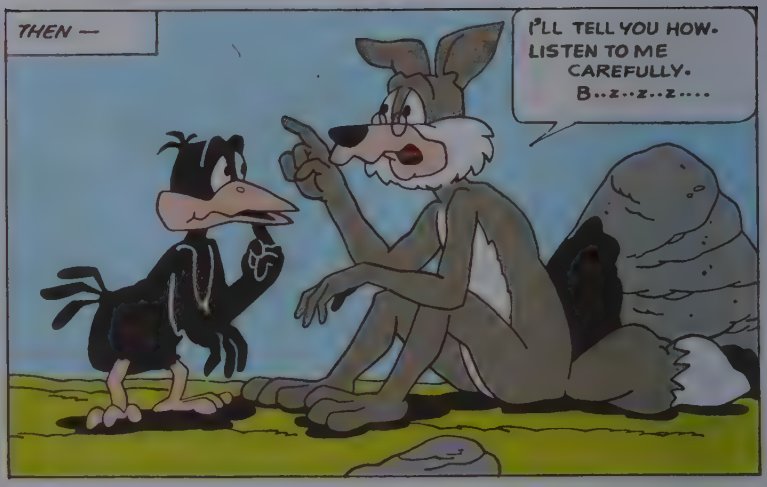

WHIR!
WHOOSH!
WHAT A FOOL I'D HAVE BEEN IF I'D LET A SILLY OLD WAR DRUM CHEAT ME OF ALL THIS DELICIOUS FOOD!
MORALS: FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN BRINGS NO GAIN.

THE COBRA AND THE CROW

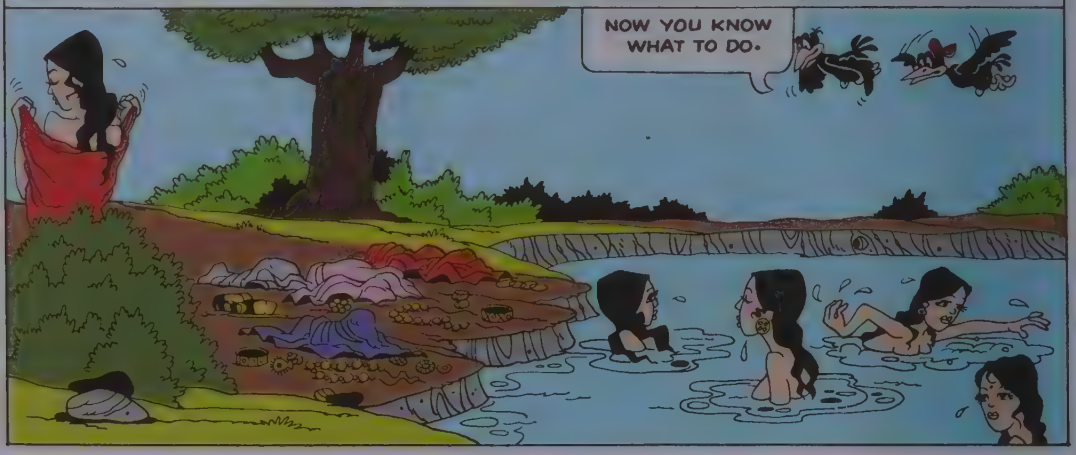


SAY FRIEND, THERE'S A BAD OLD COBRA WHO LIVES IN OUR TREE. HE EATS ALL OUR CHILDREN. HOW CAN WE GET RID OF HIM AND PROTECT OUR HOME?
JJACKAL

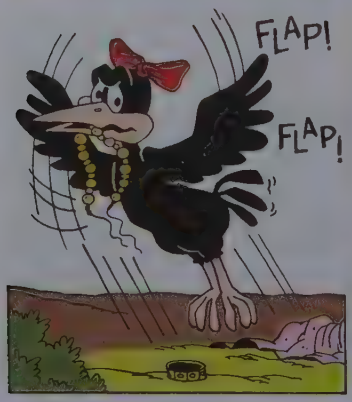
THE JACKAL THOUGHT FOR A WHILE.



ACCORDING TO PLAN, THE CROWS FLEW OVER A LAKE WHERE THE QUEEN AND HER MAIDS WERE BATHING. THEY HAD LEFT THEIR CLOTHES AND JEWELRY ON THE BANK OF THE LAKE.



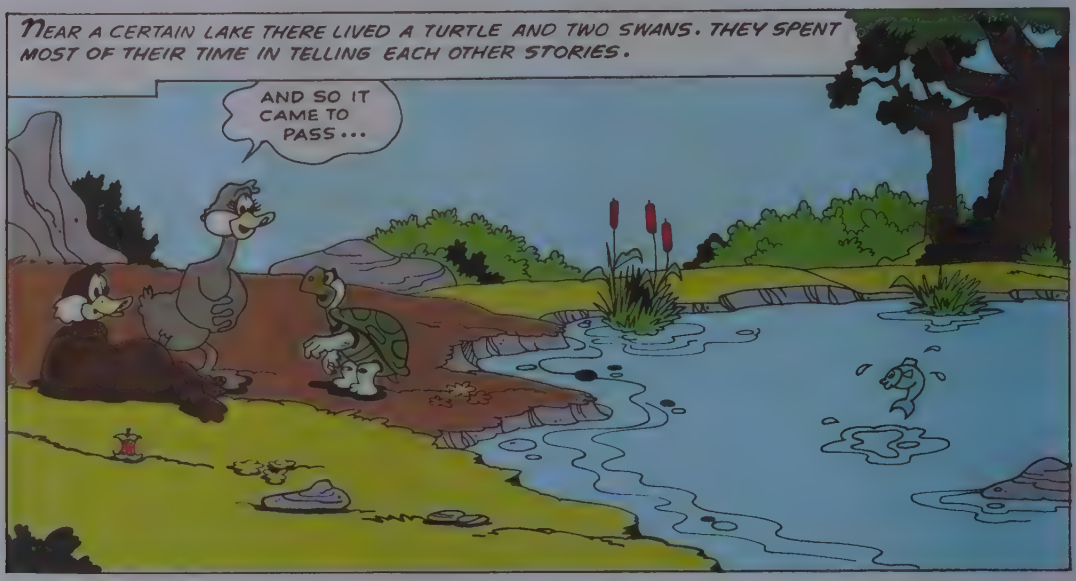
THE FEMALE CROW SWOOPED DOWN, PICKED UP A GOLD NECKLACE AND FLEW OFF.

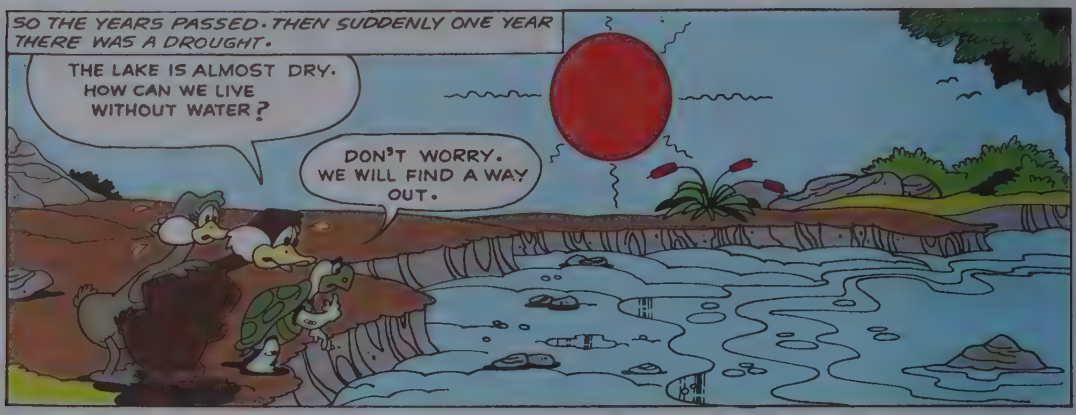


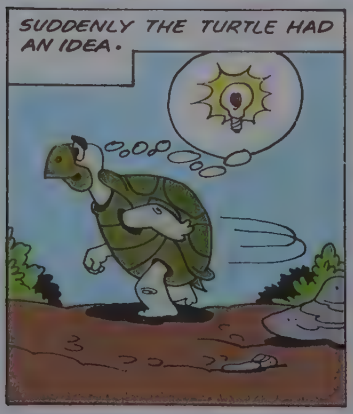
SOME OF THE KING'S SERVANTS, WHO WERE WORKING NEARBY, HEARD THE WOMEN SHOUTING. THEY BEGAN CHASING THE CROW.

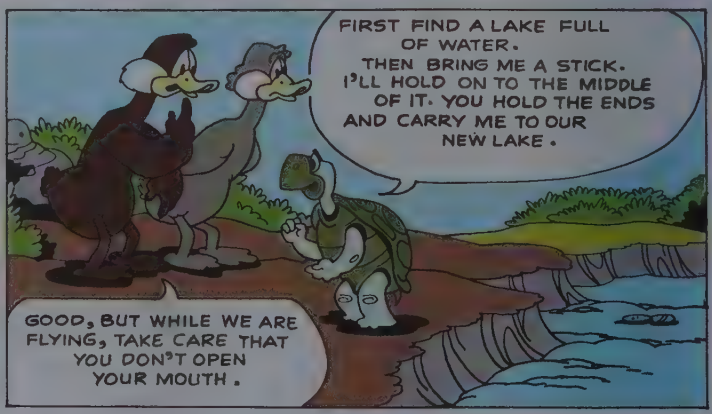
SHE FLEW OVER THE HOME OF THE BAD COBRA AND DROPPED THE NECKLACE NEARBY.
THE COBRA CAME OUT...
?
... AND THE ANGRY SERVANTS SAW HIM.
Kill him! KILL HIM!
BAM
THUD
THAT WAS THE END OF THE WICKED OLD COBRA.
THE MEN GOT BACK THE GOLD CHAIN AND THE CROWS LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
MORAL : MIGHTY BRAWN IS NO MATCH FOR NIMBLE BRAIN.

THE TURTLE WHO FELL OFF A STICK.


NEAR A CERTAIN LAKE THERE LIVED A TURTLE AND TWO SWANS. THEY SPENT MOST OF THEIR TIME IN TELLING EACH OTHER STORIES.
AND SO IT CAME TO PASS...

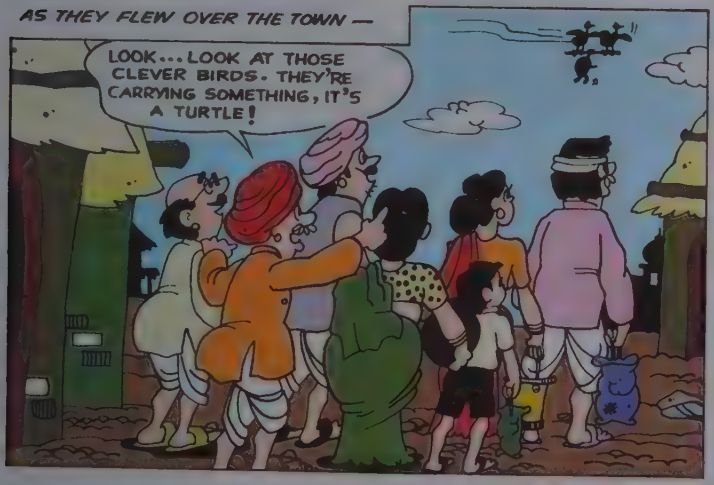

SO THE YEARS PASSED. THEN SUDDENLY ONE YEAR THERE WAS A DROUGHT.
THE LAKE IS ALMOST DRY. HOW CAN WE LIVE WITHOUT WATER?
DON'T WORRY. WE WILL FIND A WAY OUT.

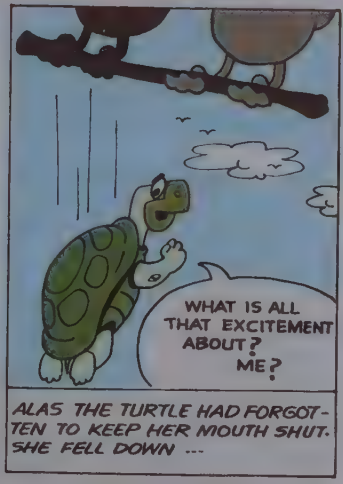



FIRST FIND A LAKE FULL OF WATER. THEN BRING ME A STICK. I'LL HOLD ON TO THE MIDDLE OF IT. YOU HOLD THE ENDS AND CARRY ME TO OUR NEW LAKE.
GOOD, BUT WHILE WE ARE FLYING, TAKE CARE THAT YOU DON'T OPEN YOUR MOUTH.

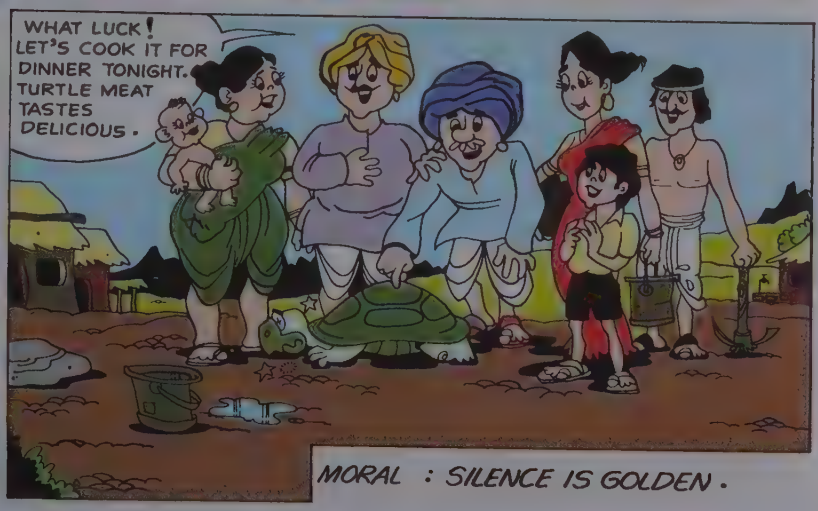
THE SWANS FOUND THE LAKE AND CAME BACK TO THE TURTLE WITH A STICK.
OKAY. GET READY! HERE WE GO.

CAN YOU SEE THAT TOWN THERE? WE'LL SOON HAVE TO FLY OVER IT.


AS THEY FLEW OVER THE TOWN —
LOOK... LOOK AT THOSE CLEVER BIRDS. THEY'RE CARRYING SOMETHING, IT'S A TURTLE!


WHAT IS ALL THAT EXCITEMENT ABOUT? ME?
ALAS THE TURTLE HAD FORGOTTEN TO KEEP HER MOUTH SHUT. SHE FELL DOWN ---

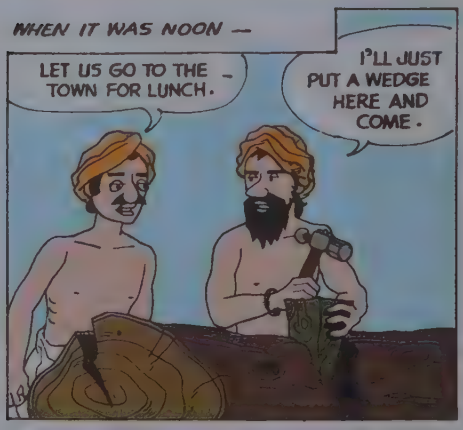
--- AND DIED.
BASH

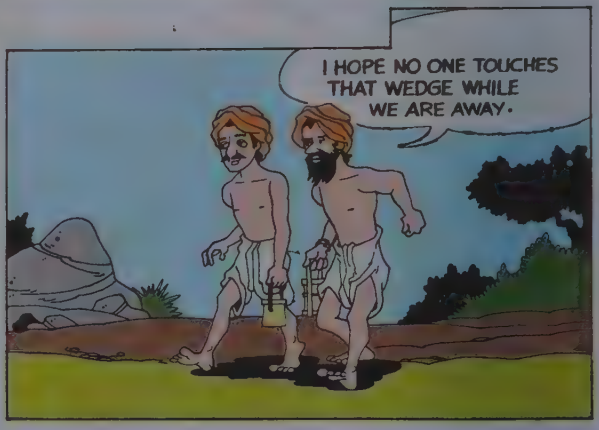

WHAT LUCK! LET'S COOK IT FOR DINNER TONIGHT. TURTLE MEAT TASTES DELICIOUS.
MORAL : SILENCE IS GOLDEN.

THE MONKEY AND THE LOG.

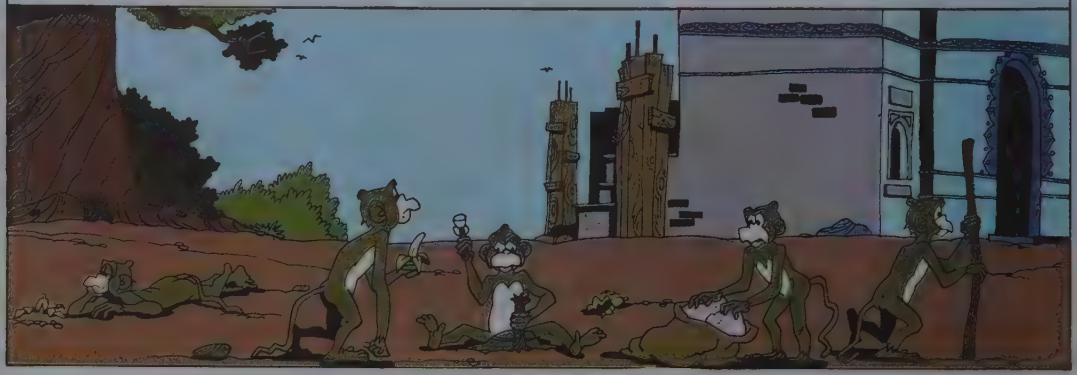
ONCE, CERTAIN WORKMEN WERE BUSY BUILDING A TEMPLE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A TOWN.

WHEN IT WAS NOON —



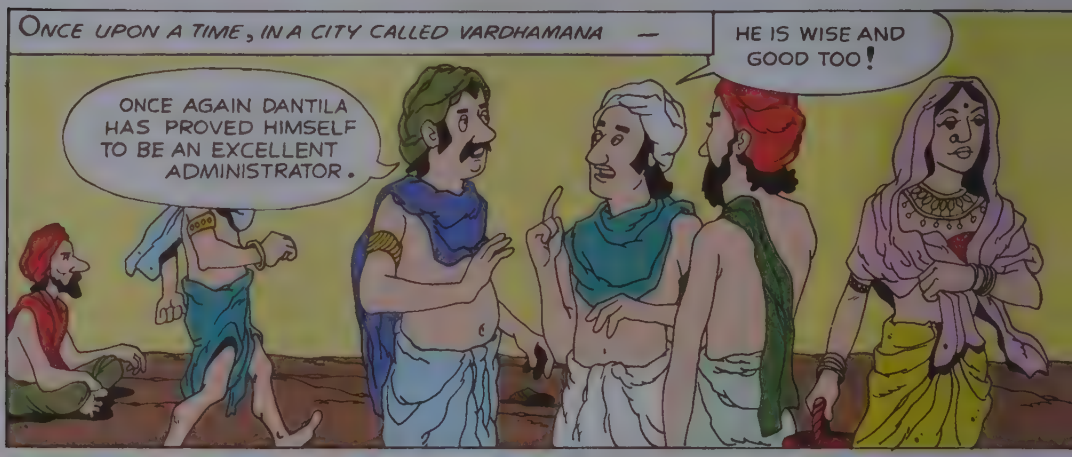


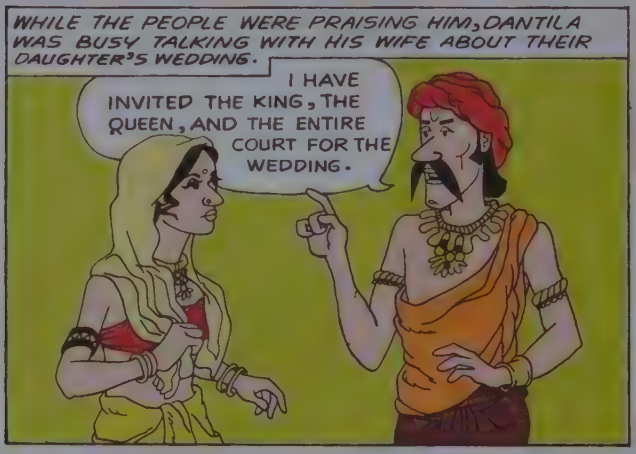
HARDLY HAD THE WORKMEN LEFT, WHEN A GROUP OF MONKEYS ARRIVED ON THE SCENE.

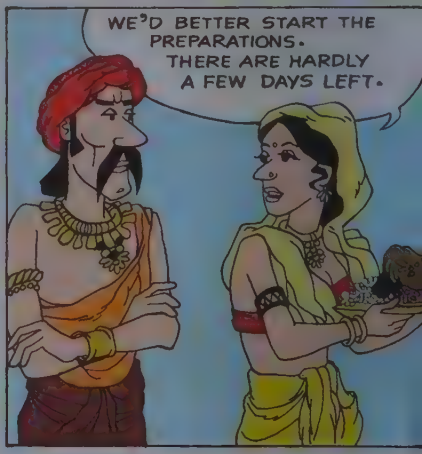


ONE OF THEM PERCHED HIMSELF ON THE HALF-SAWN LOG.
WHAT IS THIS PIECE OF WOOD DOING HERE?
I WONDER WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I PULL IT OUT?
SO HE PULLED AT THE WEDGE.
UGH! IT'S TOUGH..
OUT IT CAME.
HELP
THE GAP CLOSED IN, TRAPPING THE MONKEY'S LEG.
SNAP
THE POOR MONKEY WAS INSTANTLY KILLED.
MORAL : DO NOT MEDDLE WITH THINGS THAT DO NOT CONCERN YOU.

A MERCHANT AND A KING'S SERVANT.


ONCE UPON A TIME, IN A CITY CALLED VARDHAMANA —
ONCE AGAIN DANTILA HAS PROVED HIMSELF TO BE AN EXCELLENT ADMINISTRATOR.
HE IS WISE AND GOOD TOO!

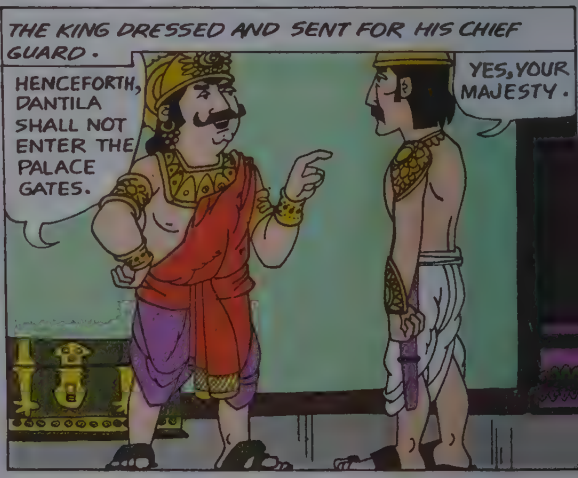

WHILE THE PEOPLE WERE PRAISING HIM, DANTILA WAS BUSY TALKING WITH HIS WIFE ABOUT THEIR DAUGHTER'S WEDDING.
I HAVE INVITED THE KING, THE QUEEN, AND THE ENTIRE COURT FOR THE WEDDING.

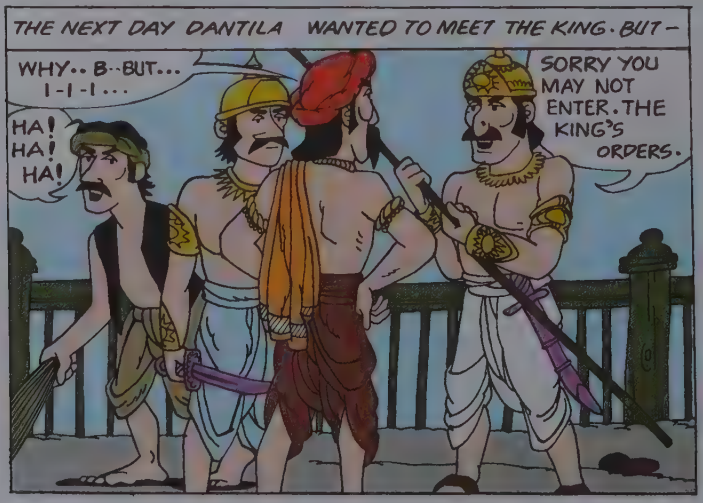


GORAMBA THE KING'S SWEEPER CAME TO THE WEDDING, TOO, BUT UNINVITED.
DANTILA WAS FURIOUS.
GET OUT, GORAMBA! HOW DARE YOU COME HERE?
I'LL GET EVEN WITH HIM SOMEHOW.
THE WHOLE OF THAT NIGHT HE THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
AT LAST JUST BEFORE SUNRISE —
I'VE GOT IT!
THAT MORNING WHEN GORAMBA WENT TO SWEEP THE KING'S CHAMBER —
SHAME ON DANTILA! HOW DARE HE EMBRACE THE QUEEN!

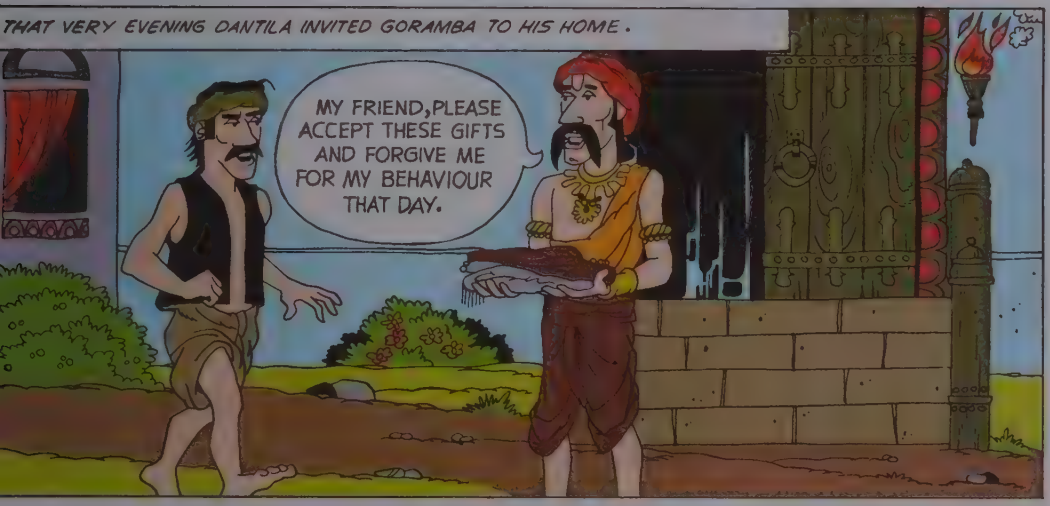
GORAMBA, WHAT WERE YOU SAYING? TELL ME AT ONCE, IS IT TRUE?
MASTER! PLEASE! I WAS GAMBLING ALL NIGHT. NOW I'M HALF ASLEEP AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING.

GORAMBA MOVES FREELY IN THE PALACE. MAYBE HE REALLY SAW IT HAPPEN.


THE KING DRESSED AND SENT FOR HIS CHIEF GUARD.
HENCEFORTH, DANTILA SHALL NOT ENTER THE PALACE GATES.
YES, YOUR MAJESTY.

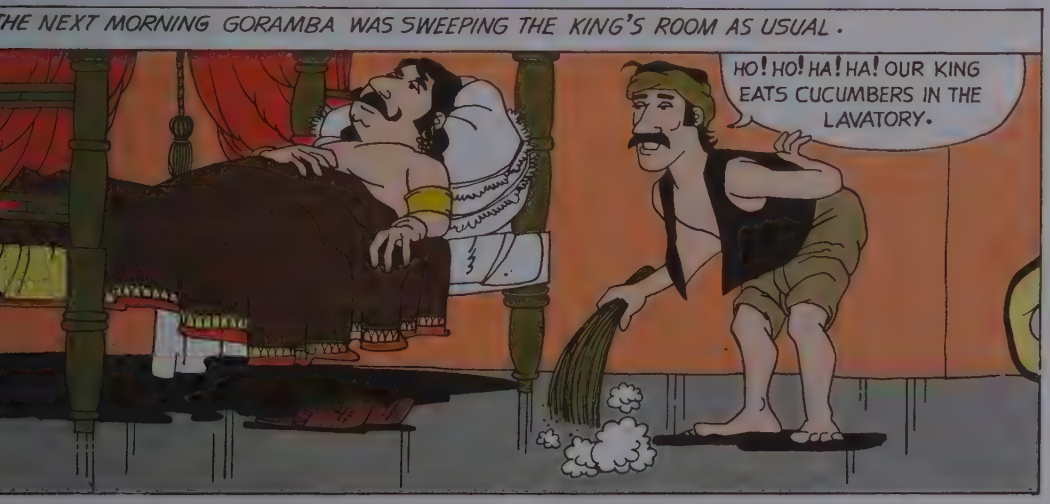

THE NEXT DAY DANTILA WANTED TO MEET THE KING. BUT –
WHY.. B..BUT... I-I-I...
HA! HA! HA!
SORRY YOU MAY NOT ENTER. THE KING'S ORDERS.

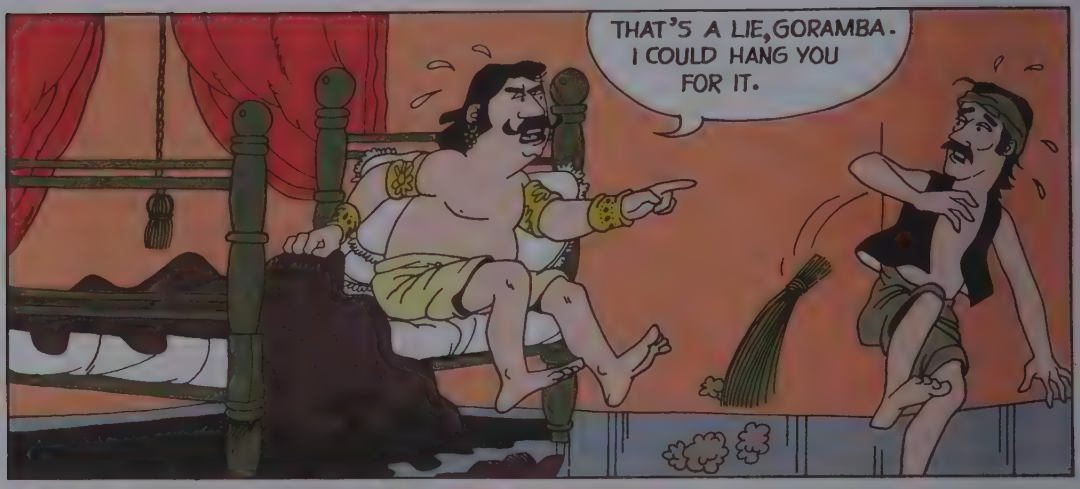
NOW I KNOW WHO CAUSED THE TROUBLE! A KING'S SERVANT HIGH OR LOW, MUST INDEED BE RESPECTED.

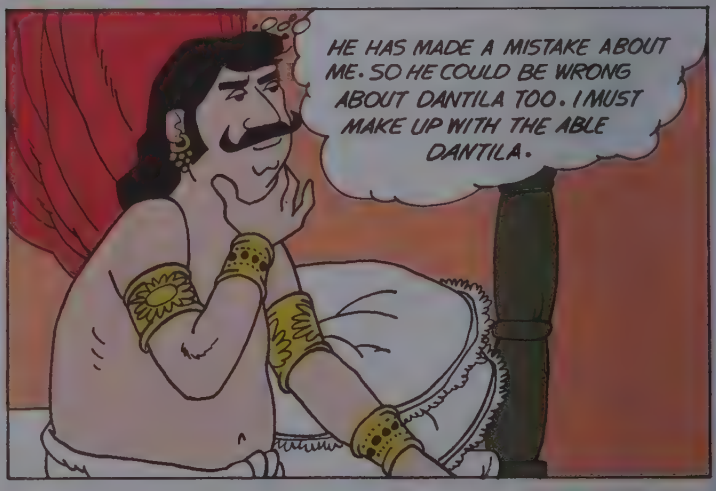

THAT VERY EVENING DANTILA INVITED GORAMBA TO HIS HOME.
MY FRIEND, PLEASE ACCEPT THESE GIFTS AND FORGIVE ME FOR MY BEHAVIOUR THAT DAY.

THANK YOU SIR, THANK YOU.

I FORGIVE YOU. AND YOU WILL SEE AGAIN HOW CLEVER I CAN BE.


THE NEXT MORNING GORAMBA WAS SWEEPING THE KING'S ROOM AS USUAL.
HO! HO! HA! HA! OUR KING EATS CUCUMBERS IN THE LAVATORY.

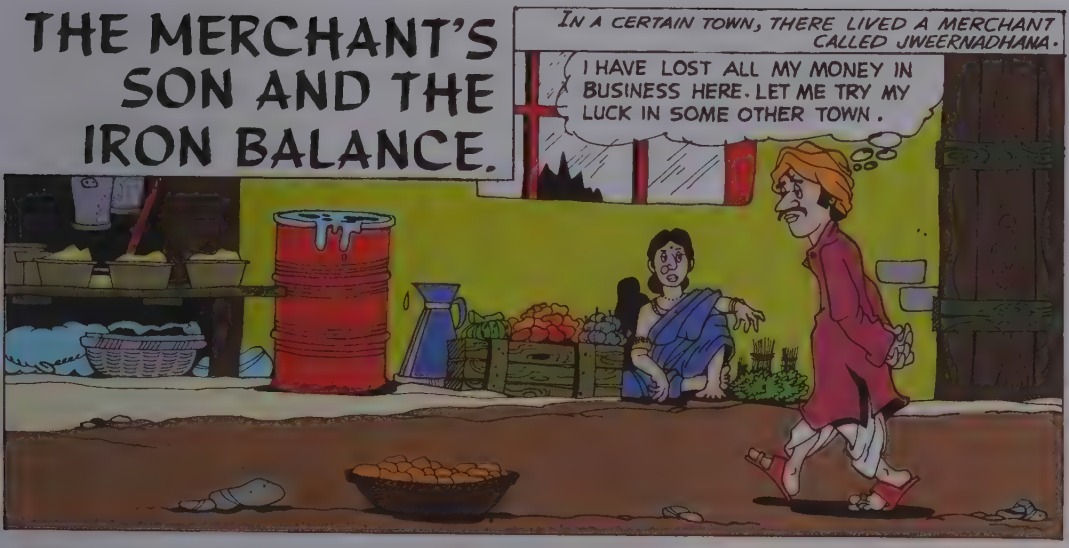


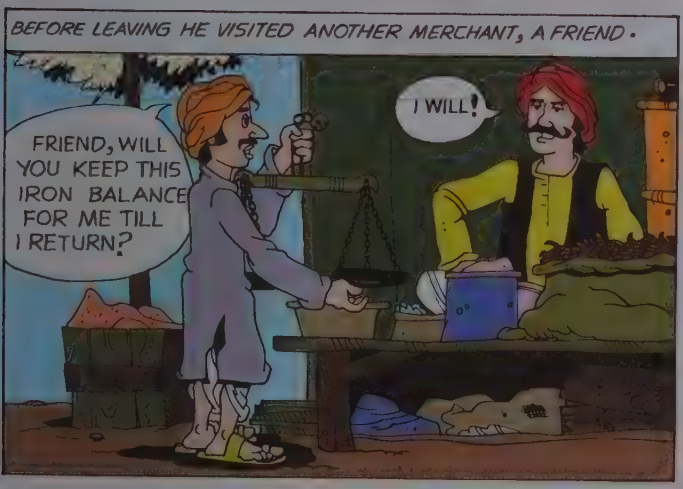


DANTILA, MY DEAR FRIEND, ACCEPT THESE GIFTS AS A TOKEN OF MY REGARD FOR YOU. YOU ARE REAPPOINTED TO YOUR FORMER POSITION AND MAY ENTER THE PALACE AT WILL!
THANK YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.

MORAL : EVERY DOG HAS ITS DAY.

THE MERCHANT'S SON AND THE IRON BALANCE.


IN A CERTAIN TOWN, THERE LIVED A MERCHANT CALLED JWEERNADHANA.
I HAVE LOST ALL MY MONEY IN BUSINESS HERE. LET ME TRY MY LUCK IN SOME OTHER TOWN.



AFTER A FEW MONTHS JWEERNADHANA RETURNED AND WENT TO MEET HIS FRIEND.

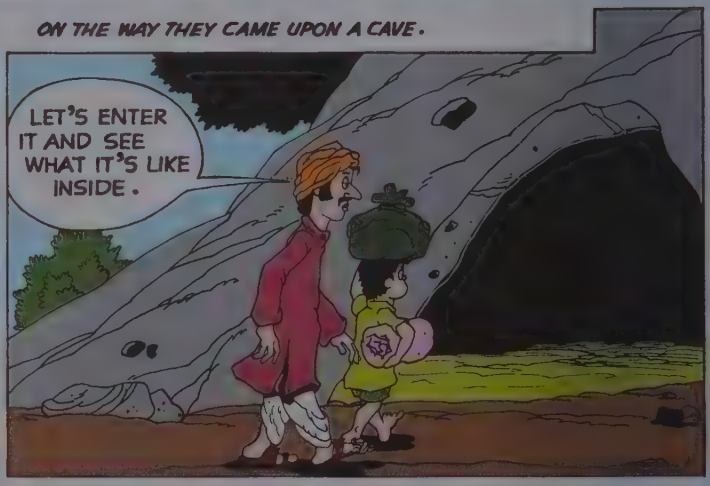
FRIEND, I HAVE COME FOR MY BALANCE.
I'M SORRY. THE RATS ATE IT UP.
JWEERNADHANA KNEW THAT HIS FRIEND WAS LYING. BUT WHAT COULD HE DO?

THEN SUDDENLY HE HAD AN IDEA.

WELL! FRIEND. I CAN'T BLAME YOU. ANYWAY I'LL GO FOR A BATH. CAN YOU SEND YOUR LITTLE SON WITH ME TO HELP ME CARRY MY BELONGINGS?
SURE. WHY NOT!

SO THE LITTLE BOY ACCOMPANIED JWEERNADHANA AND CARRIED HIS BELONGINGS FOR HIM.

ON THE WAY THEY CAME UPON A CAVE.

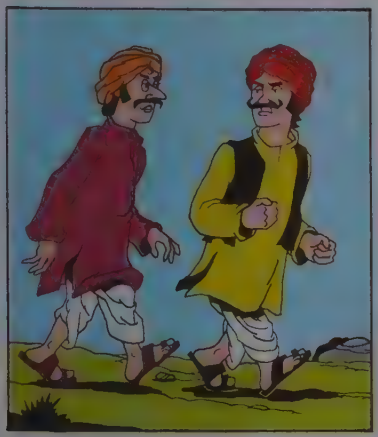


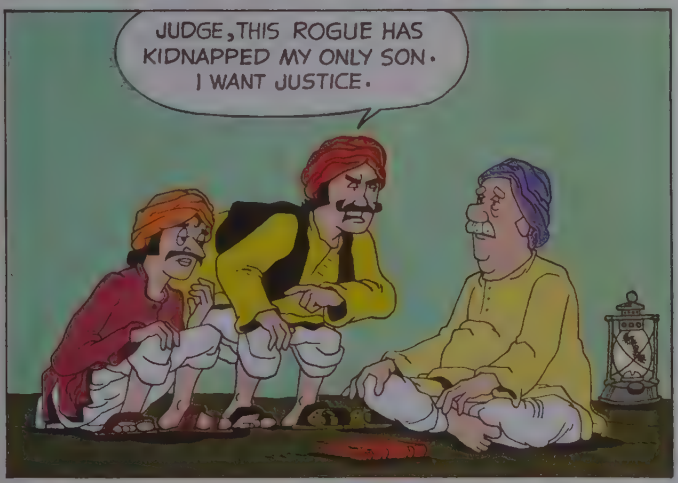
ONCE INSIDE, JWEERNADHANA LEFT THE BOY AND QUICKLY RAN OUT.

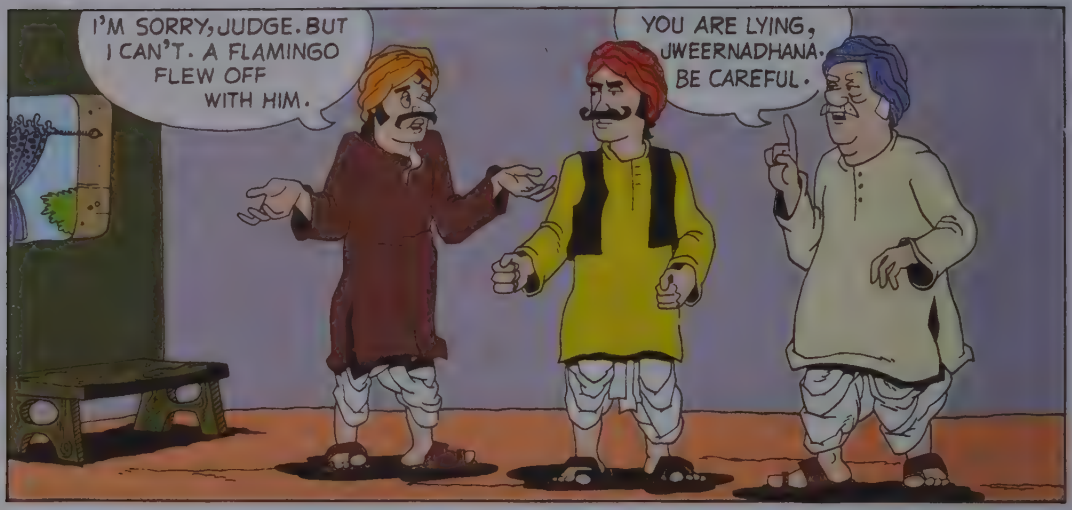
THEN HE BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE WITH A HUGE BOULDER.

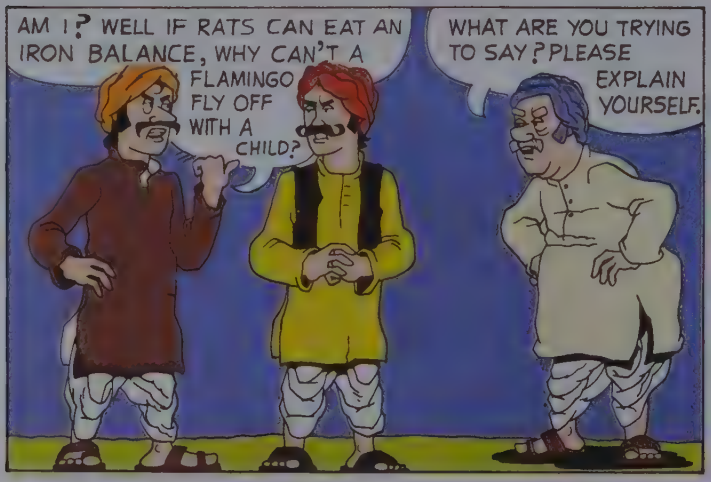
THEN HE RETURNED TO HIS FRIEND.

SO THEY WENT TO THE JUDGE.

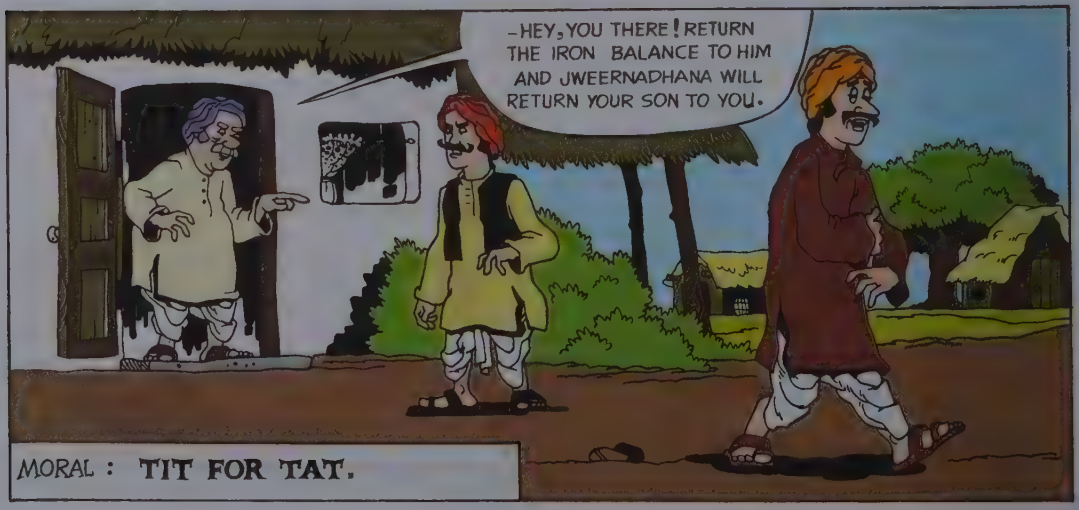







AM I? WELL IF RATS CAN EAT AN IRON BALANCE, WHY CAN'T A FLAMINGO FLY OFF WITH A CHILD?
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY? PLEASE EXPLAIN YOURSELF.

WHEN JWEERNADHANA EXPLAINED EVERYTHING-

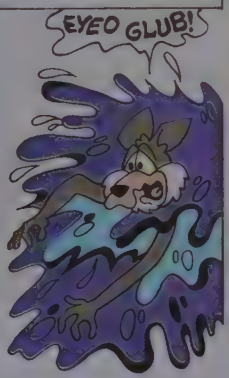


THE JACKAL WHO FELL INTO A VAT OF INDIGO DYE.

ONCE A JACKAL GOT SO HUNGRY THAT HE VENTURED INTO A TOWN IN SEARCH OF FOOD.

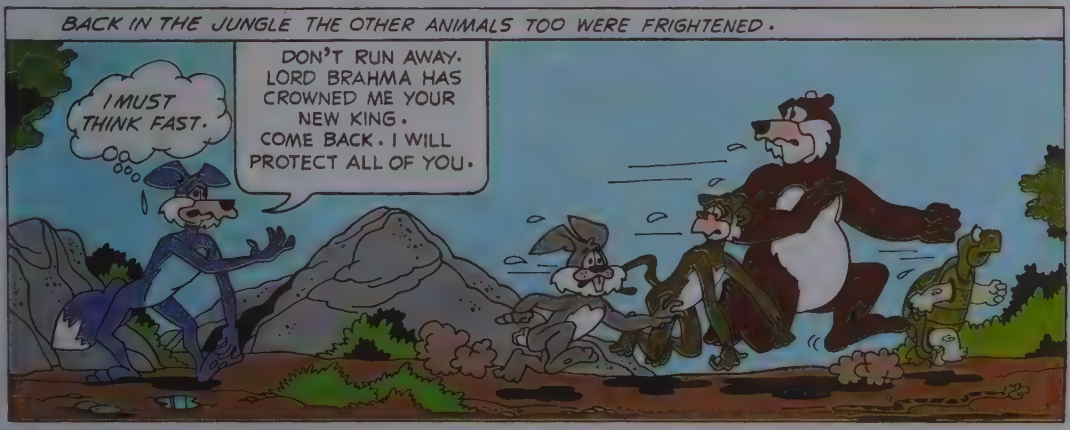
TO SAVE HIMSELF FROM THE DOGS HE RAN INTO A DYER'S YARD AND...

... FELL INTO A VAT OF INDIGO DYE.



WHEN HE CAME OUT THE DOGS COULD NOT RECOGNISE HIM. THEY RAN AWAY IN PANIC.

BACK IN THE JUNGLE THE OTHER ANIMALS TOO WERE FRIGHTENED.



THUS ASSURED, THE ANIMALS RETURNED. THEN —

THAT NIGHT WHEN THE JUNGLE WAS ABSOLUTELY STILL, THE JACKALS BEGAN HOWLING.

TRUE TO HIS NATURE THE BLUE JACKAL BEGAN HOWLING ALONG WITH HIS BROTHERS.

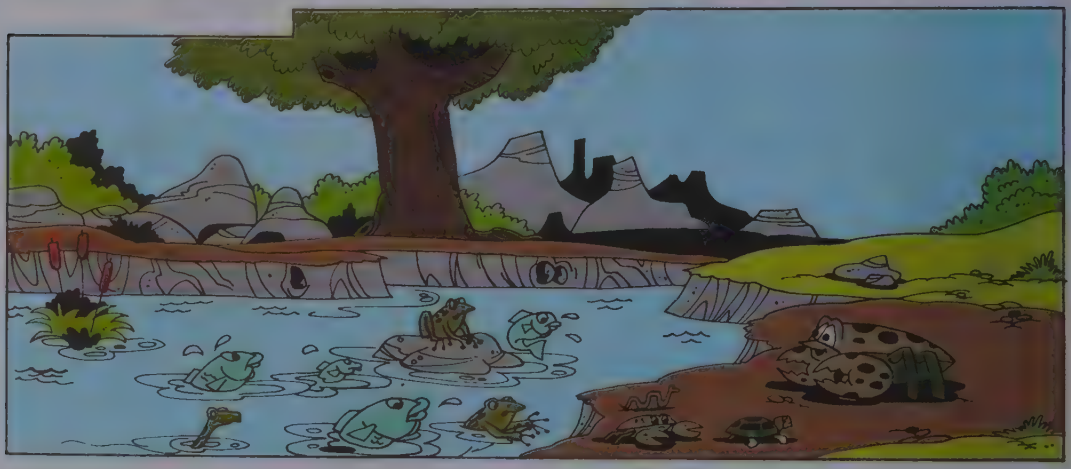
SO THEY POUNCED ON THE BLUE JACKAL AND...

... THAT WAS THE END OF HIM.

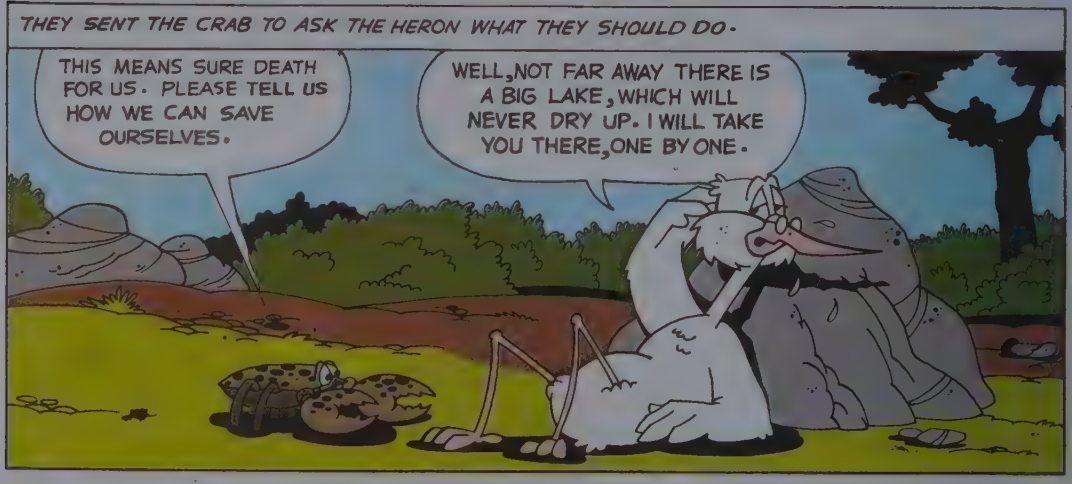
THE HERON AND THE CRAB.

AN OLD HERON LIVED IN A JUNGLE NEAR A BIG LAKE WHICH WAS FULL OF FISHES, CRABS AND OTHER WATER CREATURES.
I AM SO OLD AND FEEBLE, I CAN HARDLY CATCH ANY FISH. UNLESS I FIND A WAY OUT, I WILL SOON DIE.
ONE DAY HE SAT AT THE EDGE OF THE LAKE AND BEGAN CRYING. A CRAB CAME TO HIM.
UNCLE, WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY ARE YOU CRYING? AREN'T YOU GOING TO EAT ANY FISH TODAY?
FROM TODAY I SHALL FAST UNTO DEATH.
BUT WHY?
AN ASTROLOGER TOLD ME THIS MORNING THAT THERE WILL BE NO RAIN FOR 12 YEARS. THE LAKES WILL DRY UP. WE SHALL ALL DIE.

THE CRAB TOLD THIS TO ALL THE OTHER WATER CREATURES. THEY WERE PANIC-STRICKEN.

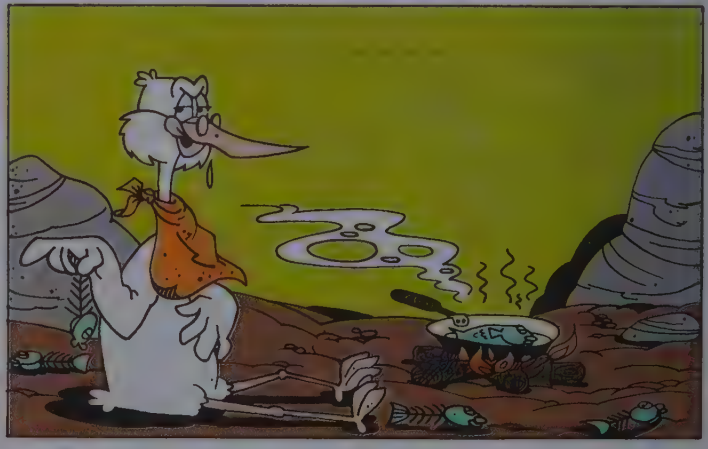


THEY SENT THE CRAB TO ASK THE HERON WHAT THEY SHOULD DO.


THIS MEANS SURE DEATH FOR US. PLEASE TELL US HOW WE CAN SAVE OURSELVES.
WELL, NOT FAR AWAY THERE IS A BIG LAKE, WHICH WILL NEVER DRY UP. I WILL TAKE YOU THERE, ONE BY ONE.

THE HERON HAD SUCCEEDED IN GAINING THEIR CONFIDENCE.

THE WICKED HERON TOOK THEM, ONE BY ONE, TO A ROCK NEARBY AND ATE THEM.



ONE DAY THE CRAB CAME TO THE HERON.
UNCLE, PLEASE SAVE ME TOO! DON'T FORGET I WAS YOUR FRIEND FIRST.
I AM TIRED OF EATING FISH EVERY DAY. CRAB SHOULD BE FINE FOR A CHANGE.
SO THE HERON TOOK THE CRAB.
AH! FISH BONES. NOW I UNDERSTAND ALL!
UNCLE, YOU MUST BE TIRED. AM I TOO HEAVY? WHERE IS THE LAKE?
NOW THIS DUMB CRAB CANNOT ESCAPE ME. I MAY AS WELL TELL HIM THE TRUTH.
O FOOLISH CRAB. THERE IS NO OTHER LAKE. THIS TRIP IS FOR MY FOOD. I WILL SOON DASH YOU AGAINST A ROCK AND EAT YOU.

THE MINUTE, THE HERON SAID THIS, THE CRAB CAUGHT HIS NECK BETWEEN HIS CLAWS AND STRANGLED HIM.

THAT WAS THE END OF THE WICKED OLD HERON.

BONG

THE CRAB GRIPPED THE HERON BY HIS NECK AND DRAGGED HIM SLOWLY TO THE LAKE

HA! HA! HA! FASTING TO DEATH! POOR FISHES.

WHEN HE REACHED THE LAKE HE WAS STILL LAUGHING.

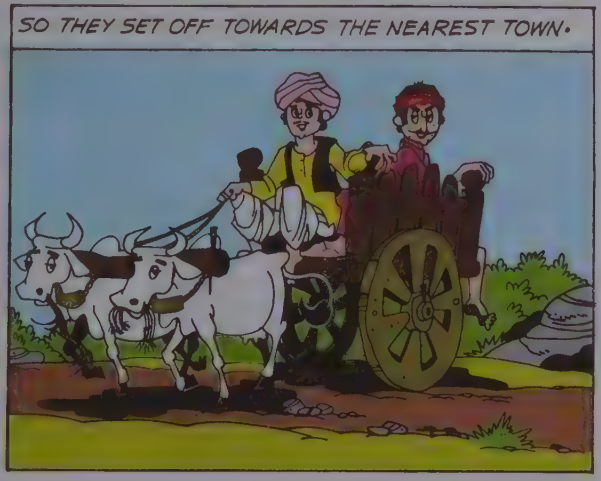
CRAB, WHY ARE YOU BACK? WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO UNCLE? WE ARE ALL WAITING FOR OUR TURN, TO BE TAKEN TO THE OTHER POND.

YOU FOOLS, HE HAS EATEN ALL YOUR BROTHERS. I FOUND OUT AND KILLED HIM.

MORAL: ONE MAY SMILE AND SMILE AND YET BE A VILLAIN.

DHARMABUDDHI AND PAPABUDDHI.

IN A CERTAIN VILLAGE THERE ONCE LIVED TWO FRIENDS CALLED DHARMABUDDHI AND PAPABUDDHI. PAPABUDDHI WAS A DISHONEST MAN.
IF I CAN GET DHARMABUDDHI TO START SOME BUSINESS WITH ME, I CAN CHEAT HIM OF HIS SHARE AND BECOME A RICH MAN.

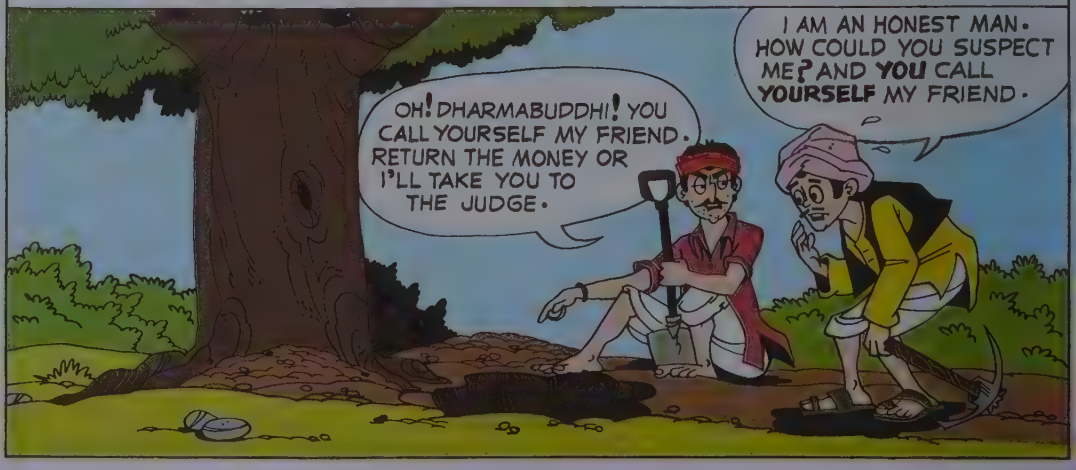


THEY SOON MADE A LOT OF MONEY AND WERE ON THEIR WAY BACK HOME. SUDDENLY PAPABUDDHI ASKED HIS FRIEND TO HALT.

A THOUGHT JUST STRUCK ME. IT IS NOT SAFE TO TAKE ALL THE MONEY BACK WITH US. LET US TAKE ONLY A SMALL SUM AND BURY THE REST HERE.
QUITE RIGHT. LET'S.

THE NEXT DAY PAPABUDDHI WENT TO DHARMABUDDHI'S HOUSE.

SO OFF THEY WENT. BUT WHEN THEY DUG UP THE PIT, THE POT OF MONEY WAS NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.


OH! DHARMABUDDHI! YOU CALL YOURSELF MY FRIEND. RETURN THE MONEY OR I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE JUDGE.
I AM AN HONEST MAN. HOW COULD YOU SUSPECT ME? AND YOU CALL YOURSELF MY FRIEND.

QUARRELLING ALL THE WAY, THEY WENT TO THE JUDGE.

I DIDN'T.

YOU DID.

THIS MAN HAS STOLEN THE MONEY. THE FOREST GOD IS MY WITNESS. HE WILL SPEAK THE TRUTH.

ALL RIGHT. WE WILL GO TO THE FOREST TOMORROW.

PAPABUDDHI WENT STRAIGHT HOME TO HIS FATHER.

FATHER, I HAVE STOLEN DHARMABUDDHI'S MONEY. YOU WILL HAVE TO DO AS I SAY IF I AM TO ESCAPE.

I'LL DO AS YOU WANT ME TO, MY SON.

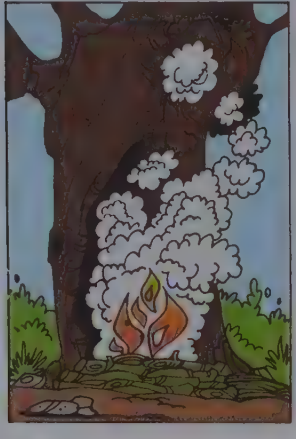
THE NEXT MORNING DHARMABUDDHI, PAPABUDDHI, THE JUDGE AND THE VILLAGE ELDERS WENT UP TO WHERE THE MONEY HAD BEEN BURIED.

O TREE GOD. TELL US WHO THE THIEF IS!

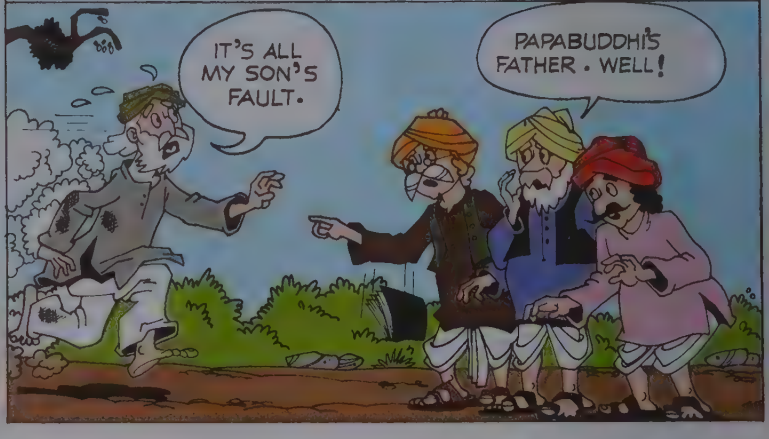
DHARMABUDDHI IS THE THIEF.

WHILE THE OTHERS WERE BUSY DISCUSSING THE CASE, DHARMABUDDHI WAS BUSY COLLECTING DRIED LEAVES AND TWIGS. THESE HE PLACED NEAR THE HOLLOW OF THE TREE AND ---

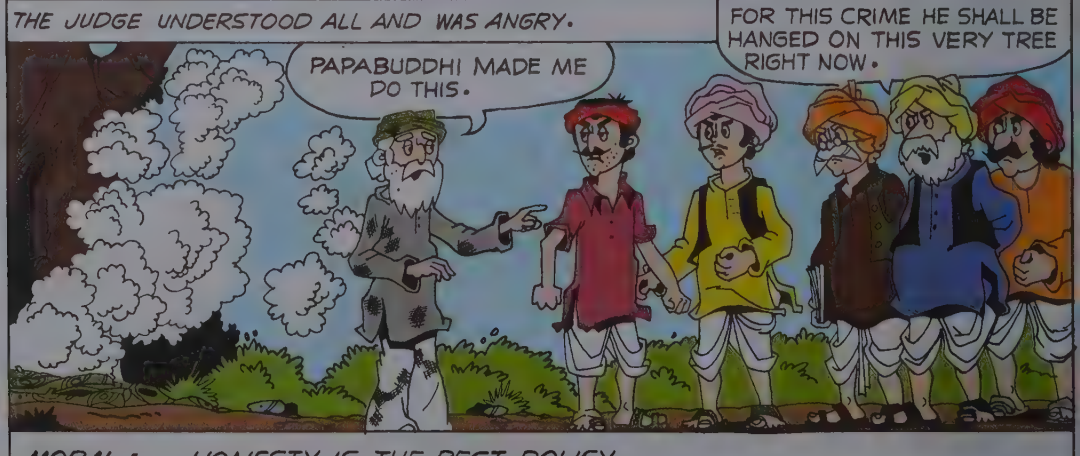
... SET THEM ALIGHT.



AS THE FIRE ROSE INTO THE HOLLOW, OUT RAN PAPABUDDHI'S FATHER.



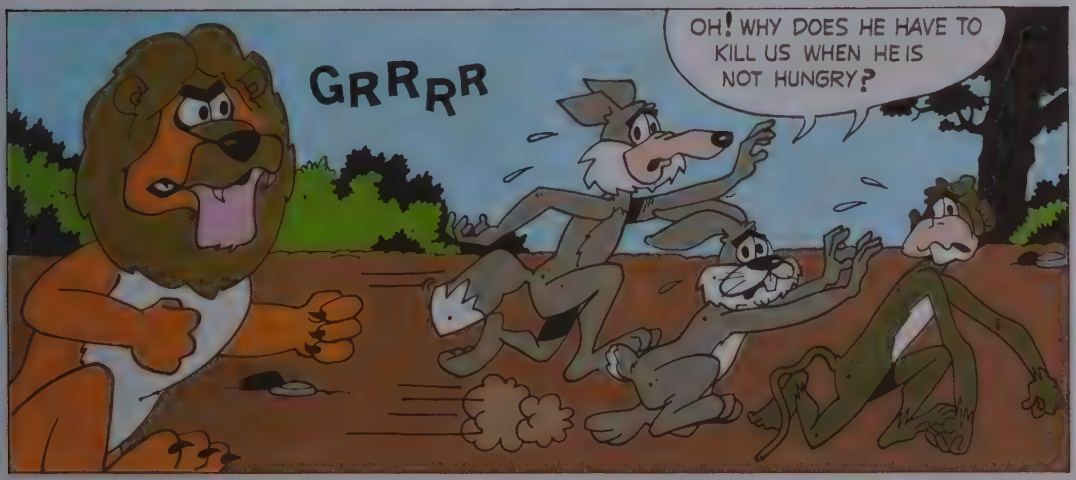
THE JUDGE UNDERSTOOD ALL AND WAS ANGRY.



MORAL : HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY.

THE LION AND THE HARE.

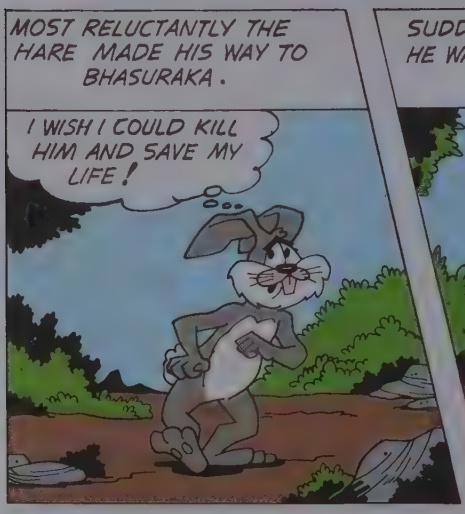
IN A CERTAIN JUNGLE THERE LIVED A LION CALLED BHASURAKA. HE WAS VERY STRONG AND KILLED THE ANIMALS IN THE JUNGLE JUST FOR FUN.

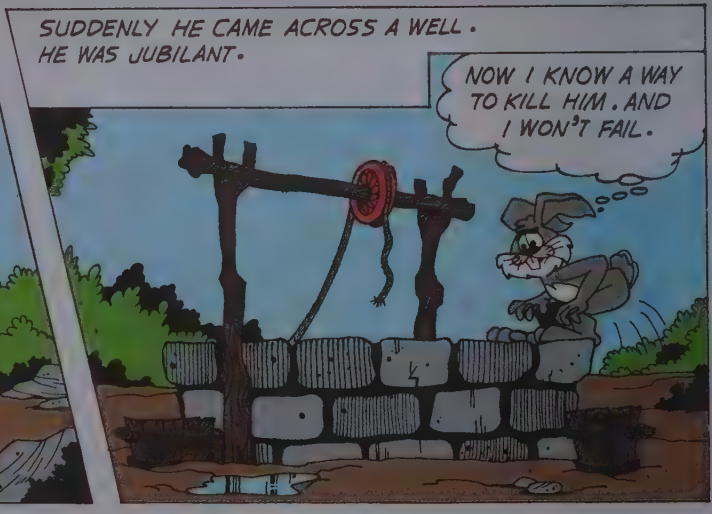


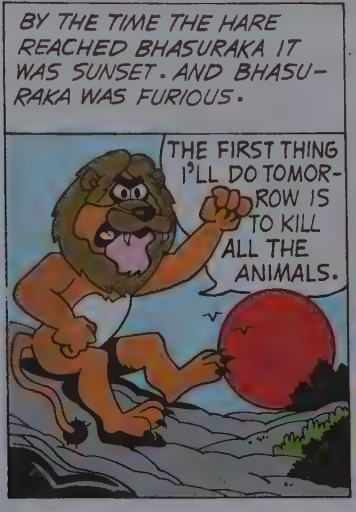
ONE DAY ALL THE SURVIVING ANIMALS APPROACHED BHASURAKA.

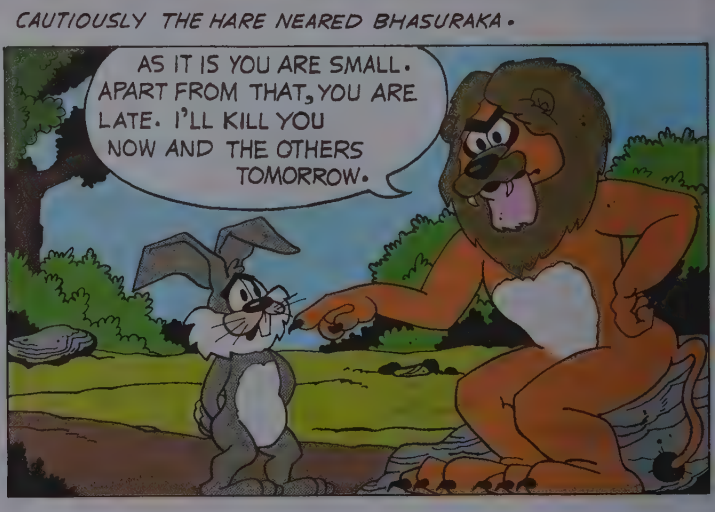
MASTER, WHY KILL US ALL WHEN ONE OF US WOULD SATISFY YOUR HUNGER? FROM TODAY ONE OF US WILL COME TO YOU EACH DAY. IN RETURN YOU MUST LET THE OTHERS LIVE IN PEACE.
ALL RIGHT. BUT IF YOU FAIL TO COME, I SHALL KILL ALL OF YOU.

EVERY DAY THE ANIMALS DREW LOTS. ONE DAY —
OH! POOR HARE! IT IS YOUR TURN TODAY.

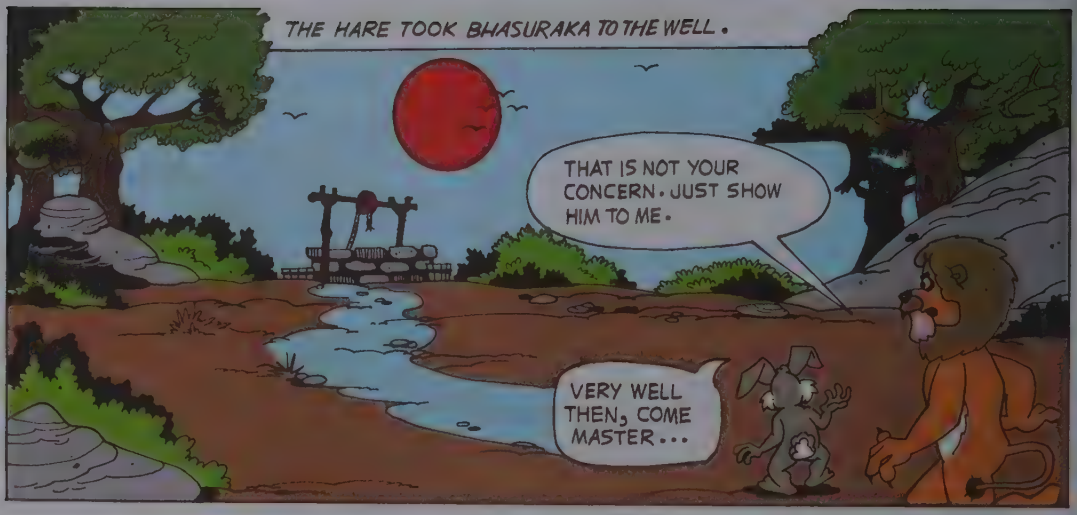

MOST RELUCTANTLY THE HARE MADE HIS WAY TO BHASURAKA.
I WISH I COULD KILL HIM AND SAVE MY LIFE!

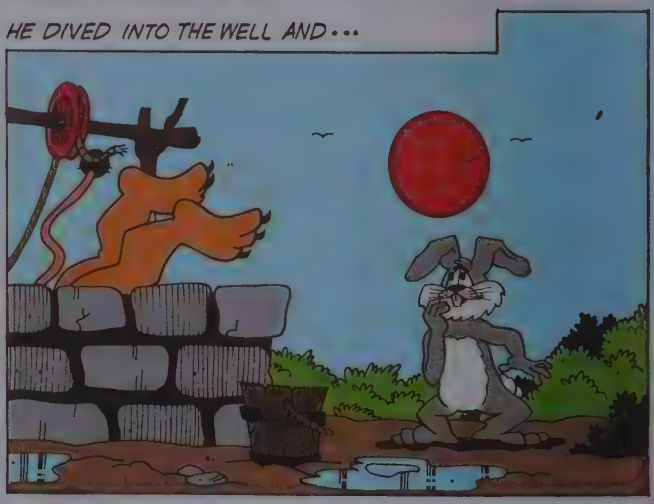

SUDDENLY HE CAME ACROSS A WELL. HE WAS JUBILANT.
NOW I KNOW A WAY TO KILL HIM. AND I WON'T FAIL.

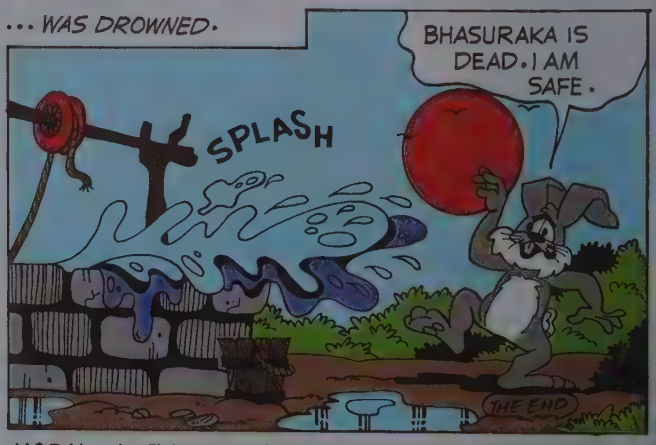

BY THE TIME THE HARE REACHED BHASURAKA IT WAS SUNSET. AND BHASURAKA WAS FURIOUS.
THE FIRST THING I'LL DO TOMORROW IS TO KILL ALL THE ANIMALS.


CAUTIOUSLY THE HARE NEARED BHASURAKA.
AS IT IS YOU ARE SMALL. APART FROM THAT, YOU ARE LATE. I'LL KILL YOU NOW AND THE OTHERS TOMORROW.

HURRY UP, THEN, AND TELL ME. I'M HUNGRY.
MASTER, IT IS NOT MY FAULT. PLEASE LET ME EXPLAIN.
BHASURAKA LION
TODAY IT WAS MY LOT TO COME TO YOU. BUT BECAUSE I'M SMALL FOUR OTHER HARES WERE SENT WITH ME.
ON THE WAY WE MET A BIG LION. HE ASKED US WHERE WE WERE GOING. SO WE TOLD HIM WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO OUR MASTER TO KEEP OUR PROMISE.
WHO WAS THIS LION?
I AM THE LORD OF THIS JUNGLE. NOT HE. GO AND CHALLENGE HIM TO FIGHT ME. I SHALL KILL HIM.
YES MASTER! BUT HE LIVES IN A STRONGHOLD. IT IS UNWISE TO ATTACK HIM THERE.
SURAKA LION





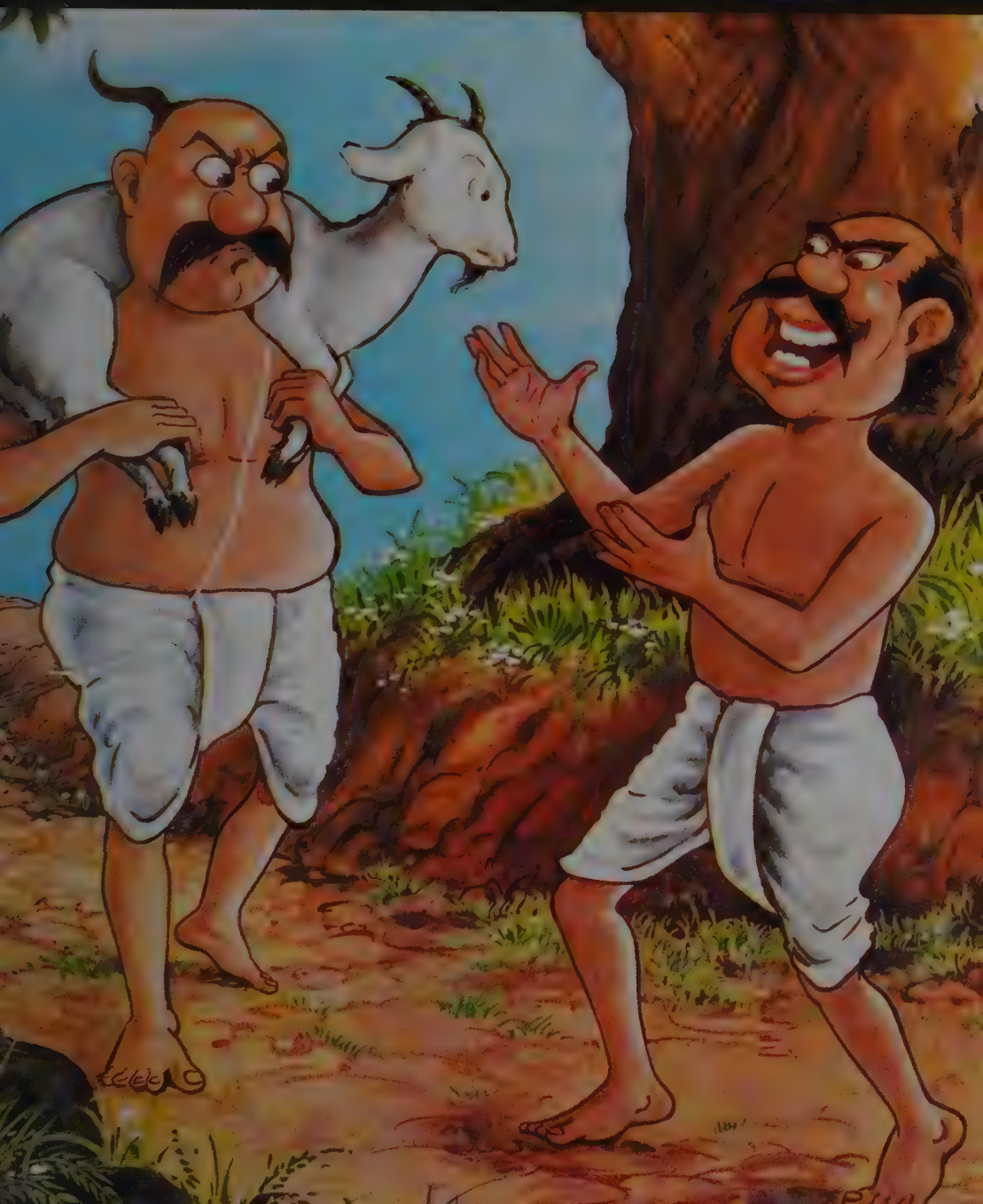


MORAL : NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A CLEVER MAN.

AMAR CHITRA KATHA

THE BRAHMIN AND THE GOAT

TALES FROM THE PANCHATANTRA



The route to your roots

THE BRAHMIN AND THE GOAT

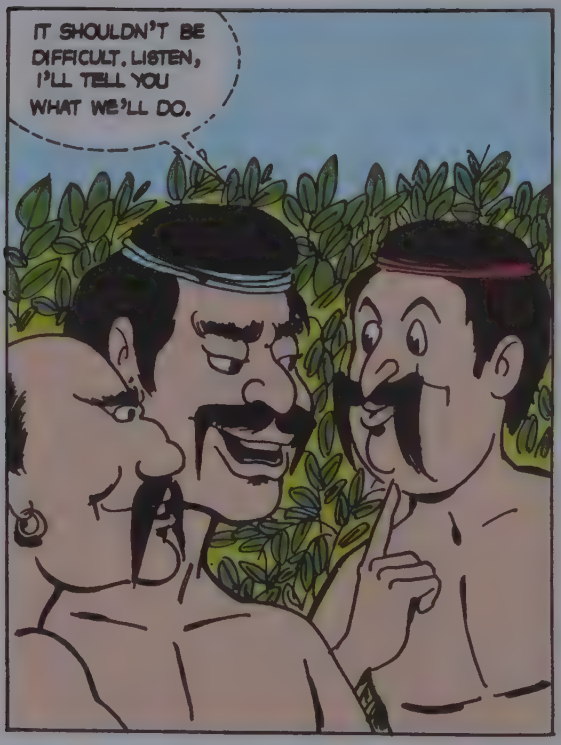
A collection of tales compiled by Vishnu Sharma, for his young students some 2,200 years ago, the Panchatantra is still correcting common human weaknesses with its wry humour.

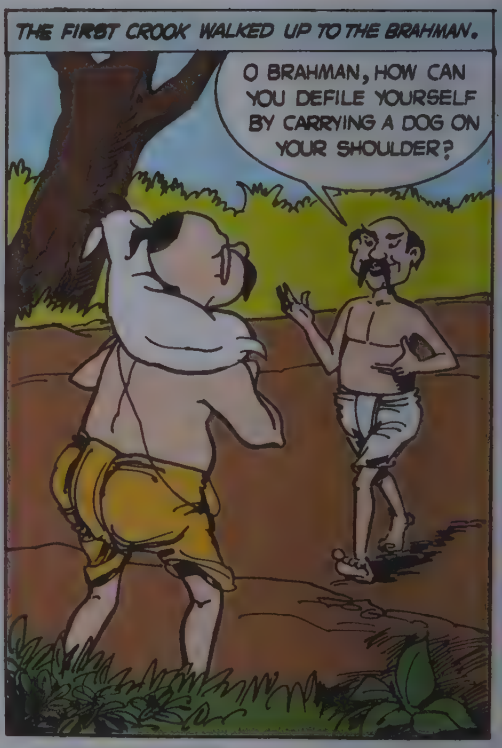
Script
Shyamala Kutty

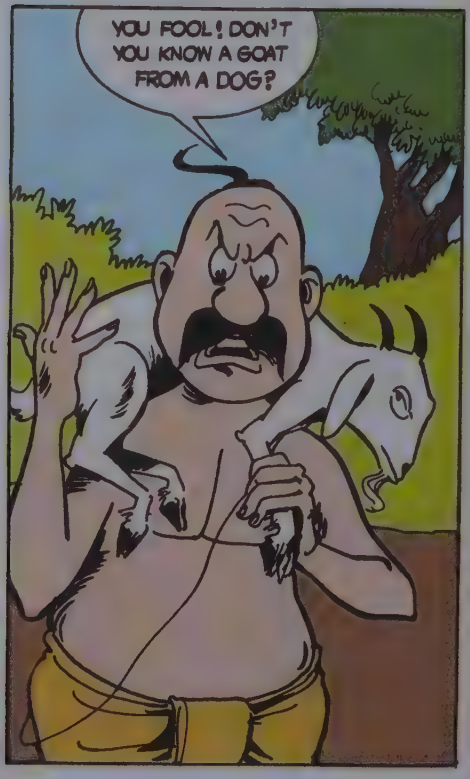
Illustrations
Ashok Dongre

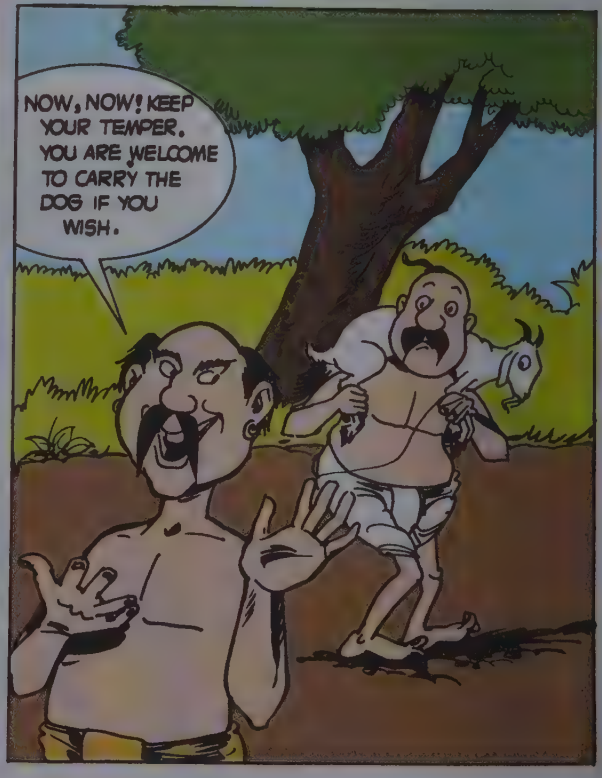
Editor
Anant Pai

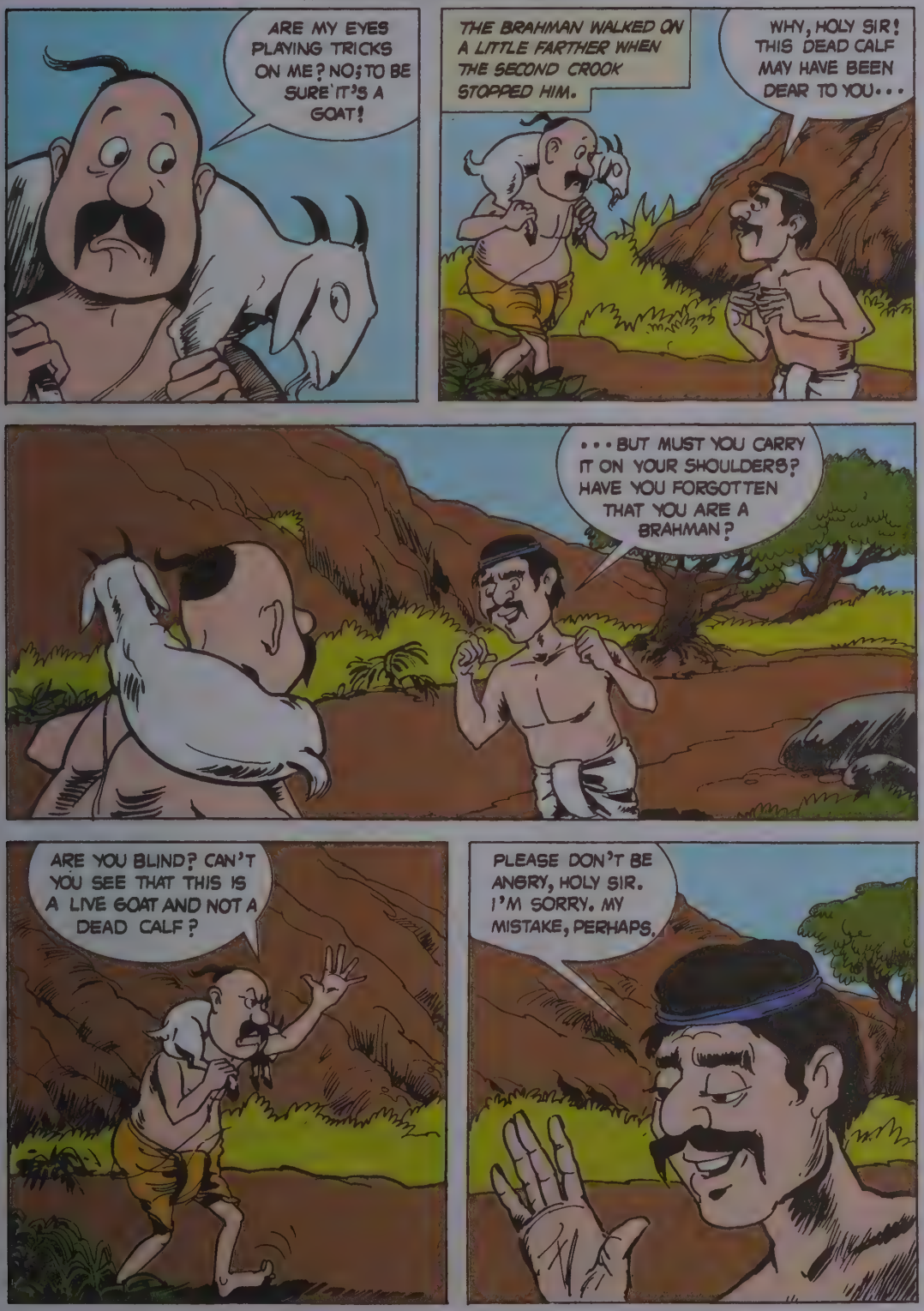
THE BRAHMAN AND THE GOAT
ONE DAY, A BRAHMAN CALLED MITRA SHARMA WAS RETURNING HOME FROM A NEIGHBOURING VILLAGE.
IT WAS KIND OF THAT VILLAGER TO GIVE ME THIS PLUMP GOAT FOR THE SACRIFICE.
JUST THEN, THREE HUNGRY CROOKS HAPPENED TO SEE HIM.
WHAT A PLUMP GOAT!
IT WOULD MAKE A FINE DINNER! LET'S TRICK HIM OUT OF IT.

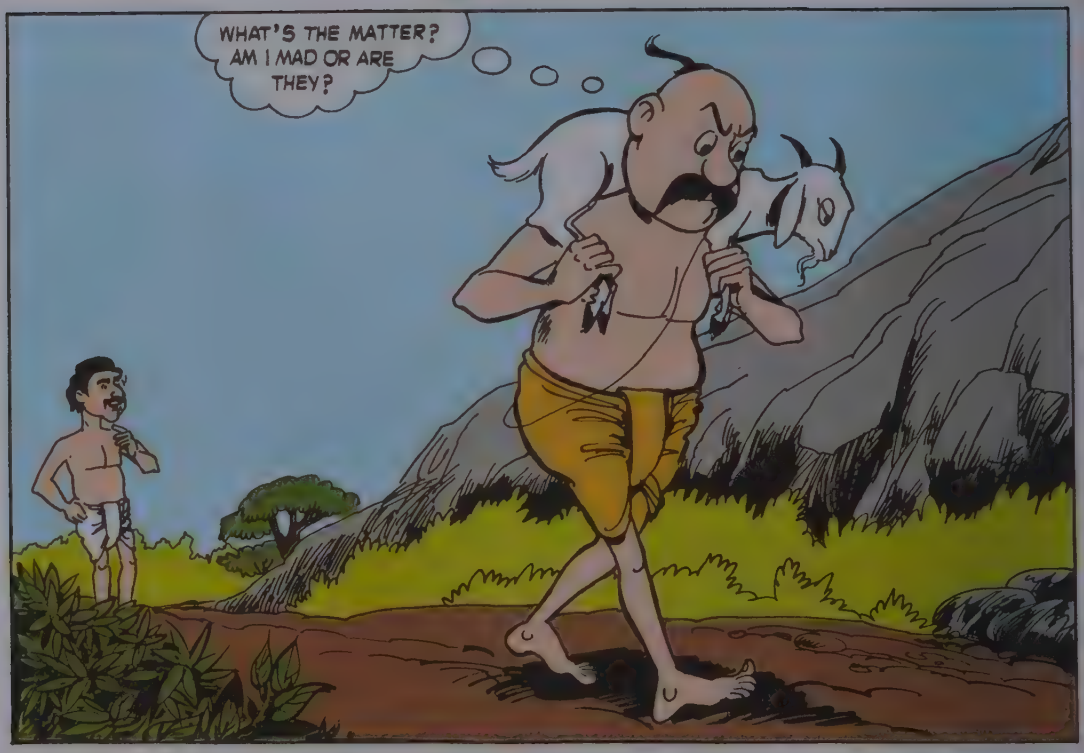

IT SHOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT. LISTEN, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT WE'LL DO.

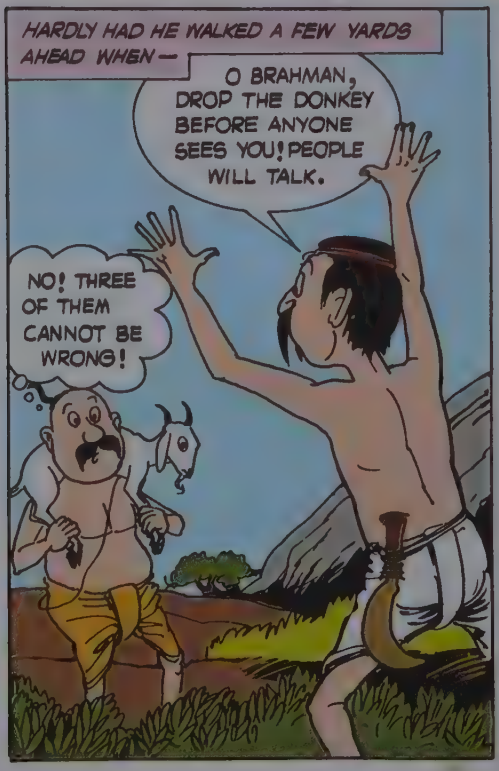

THE FIRST CROOK WALKED UP TO THE BRAHMAN.
O BRAHMAN, HOW CAN YOU DEFILE YOURSELF BY CARRYING A DOG ON YOUR SHOULDER?

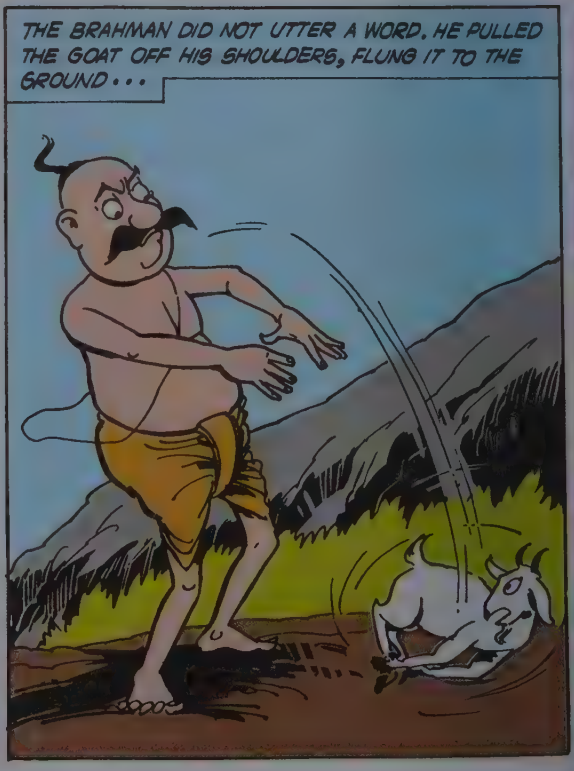

YOU FOOL! DON'T YOU KNOW A GOAT FROM A DOG?


NOW, NOW! KEEP YOUR TEMPER. YOU ARE WELCOME TO CARRY THE DOG IF YOU WISH.


ARE MY EYES PLAYING TRICKS ON ME? NO; TO BE SURE IT'S A GOAT!
THE BRAHMAN WALKED ON A LITTLE FARTHER WHEN THE SECOND CROOK STOPPED HIM.
WHY, HOLY SIR! THIS DEAD CALF MAY HAVE BEEN DEAR TO YOU...
...BUT MUST YOU CARRY IT ON YOUR SHOULDERS? HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT YOU ARE A BRAHMAN?
ARE YOU BLIND? CAN'T YOU SEE THAT THIS IS A LIVE GOAT AND NOT A DEAD CALF?
PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY, HOLY SIR. I'M SORRY. MY MISTAKE, PERHAPS.

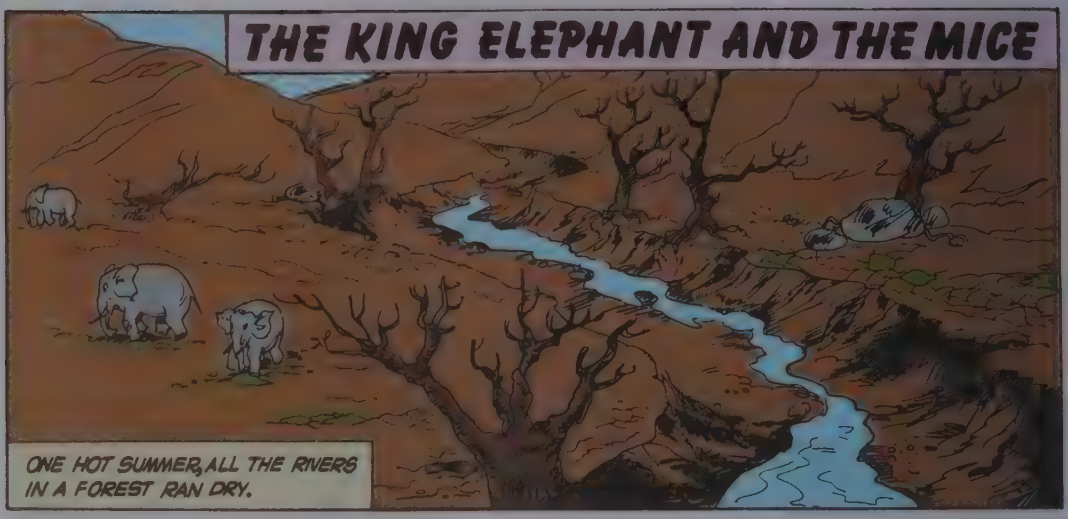

WHAT'S THE MATTER? AM I MAD OR ARE THEY?

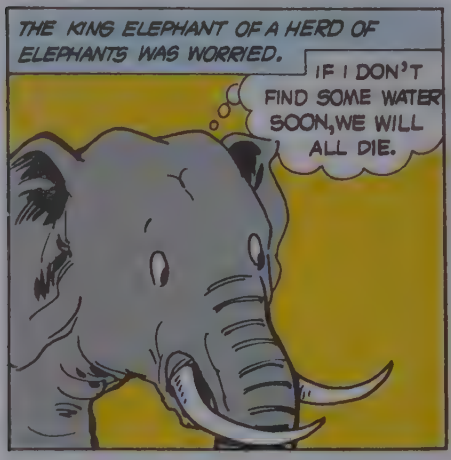

HARDLY HAD HE WALKED A FEW YARDS AHEAD WHEN—
O BRAHMAN, DROP THE DONKEY BEFORE ANYONE SEES YOU! PEOPLE WILL TALK.
NO! THREE OF THEM CANNOT BE WRONG!

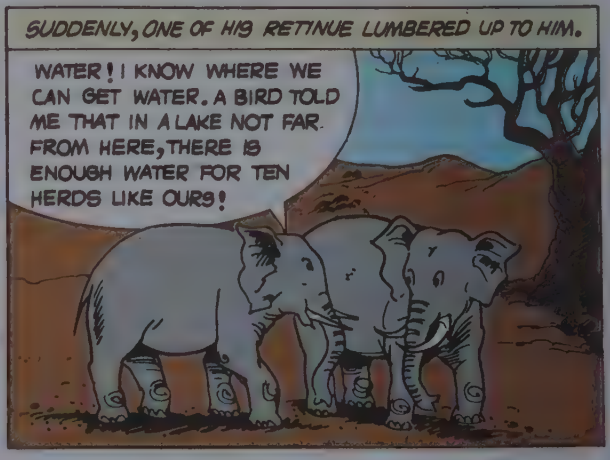

THE BRAHMAN DID NOT UTTER A WORD. HE PULLED THE GOAT OFF HIS SHOULDERS, FLUNG IT TO THE GROUND...

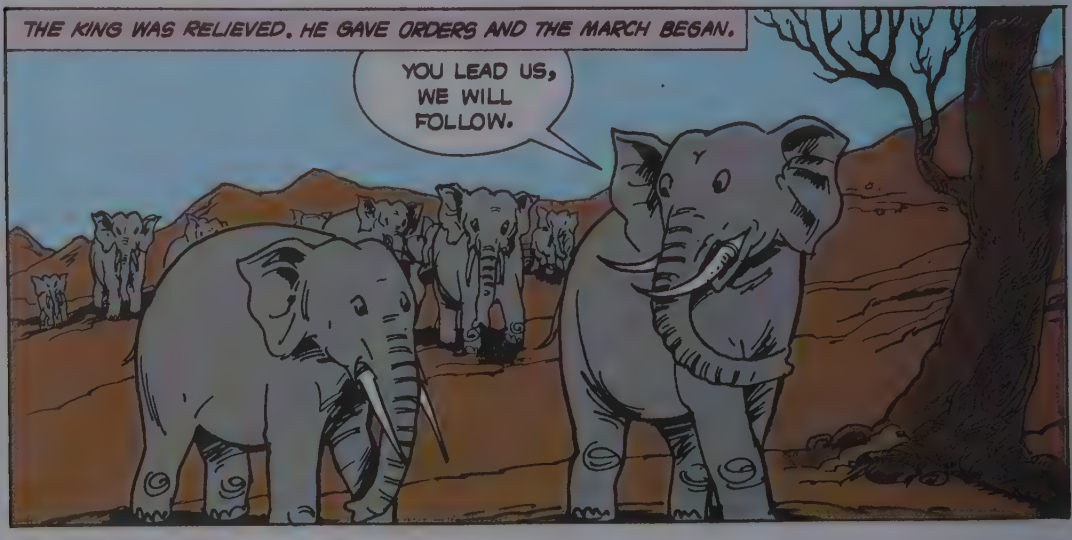
. . . AND RAN AWAY AS FAST AS HE COULD.
THAT WAS NO GOAT! IT WAS A GOBLIN THAT KEPT CHANGING ITS SHAPE. HOW COULD THE VILLAGER PLAY SUCH A MEAN TRICK ON ME!
HA HA
HO HO!
HO! HA!
AS SOON AS HE WAS OUT OF SIGHT —
COME ON, FRIENDS! THAT WAS NEATLY DONE. NOW YOU THERE, COLLECT STICKS AND LIGHT A FIRE. WE TWO SHALL KILL AND SKIN THE GOAT.
MORAL: TRUST YOURSELF BEFORE YOU TRUST OTHERS.

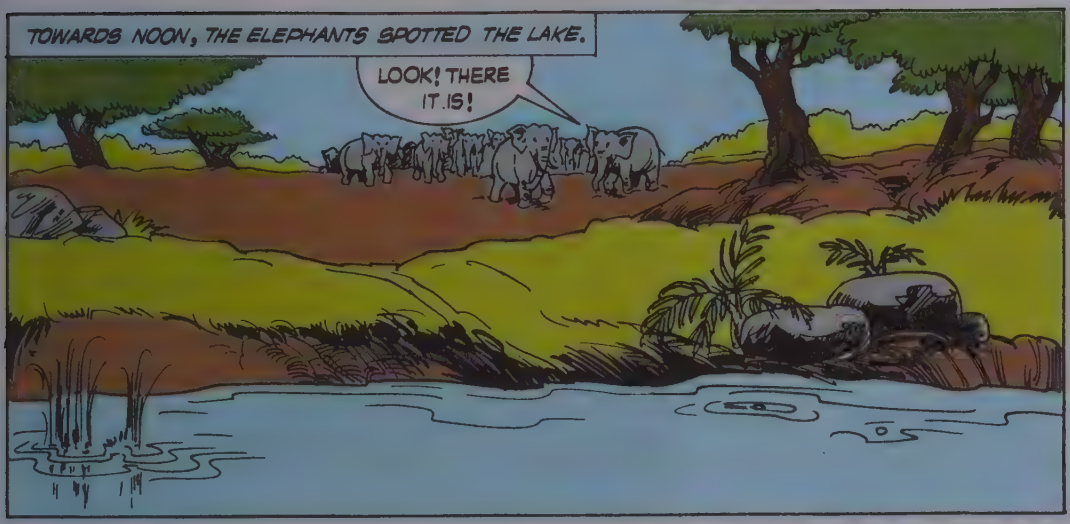
THE KING ELEPHANT AND THE MICE

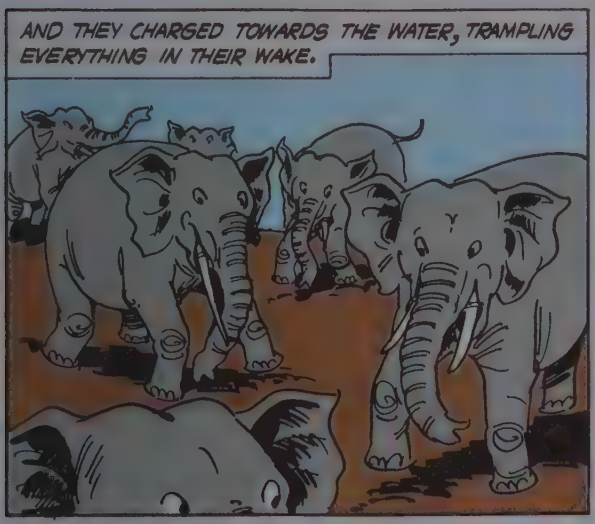


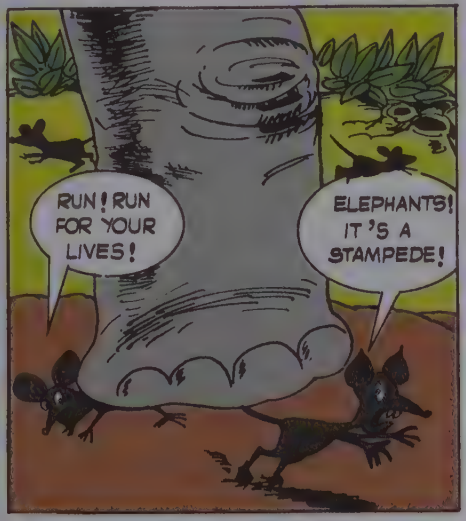


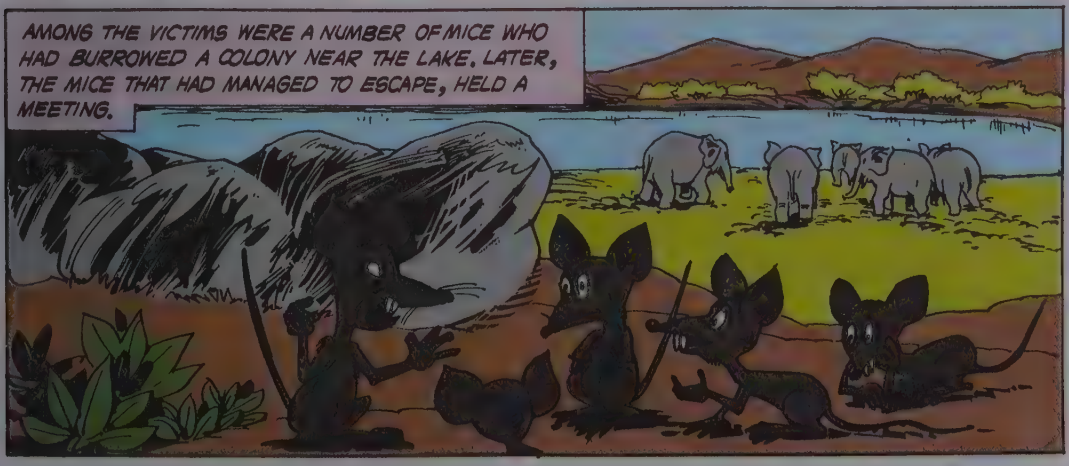

SUDDENLY, ONE OF HIS RETINUE LUMBERED UP TO HIM.
WATER!! I KNOW WHERE WE CAN GET WATER. A BIRD TOLD ME THAT IN A LAKE NOT FAR FROM HERE, THERE IS ENOUGH WATER FOR TEN HERDS LIKE OURS!



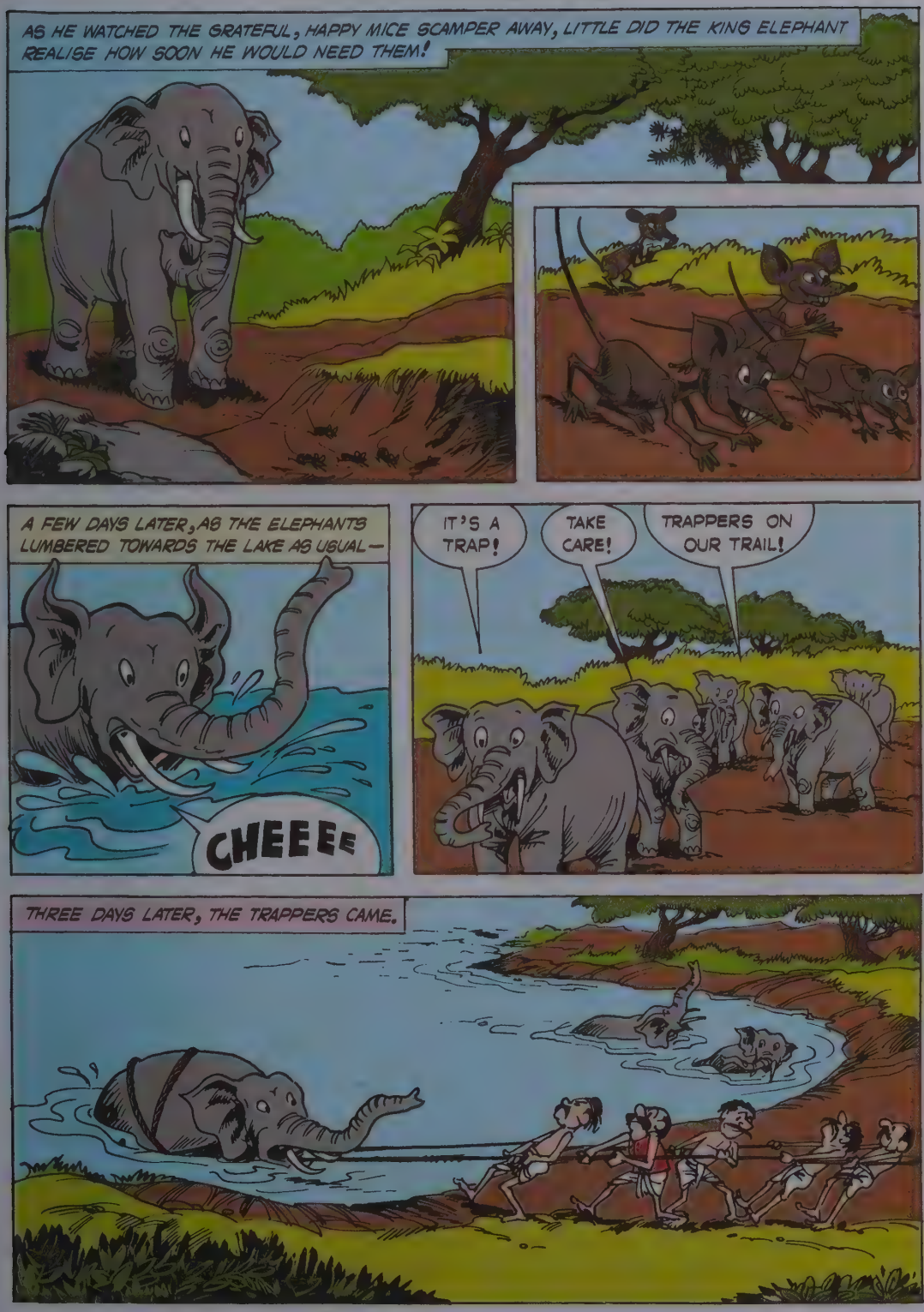

TOWARDS NOON, THE ELEPHANTS SPOTTED THE LAKE.
LOOK! THERE IT IS!

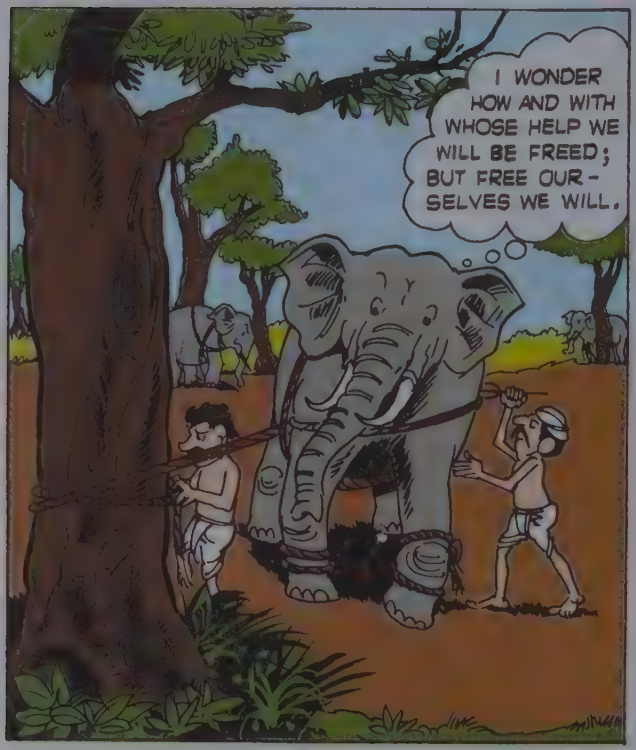

AND THEY CHARGED TOWARDS THE WATER, TRAMPLING EVERYTHING IN THEIR WAKE.

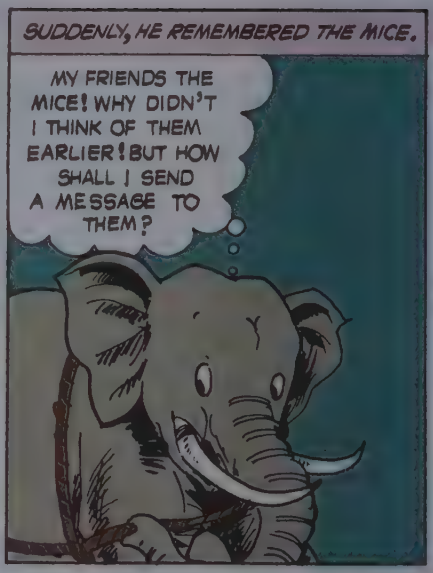

RUN! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
ELEPHANTS! IT'S A STAMPEDE!

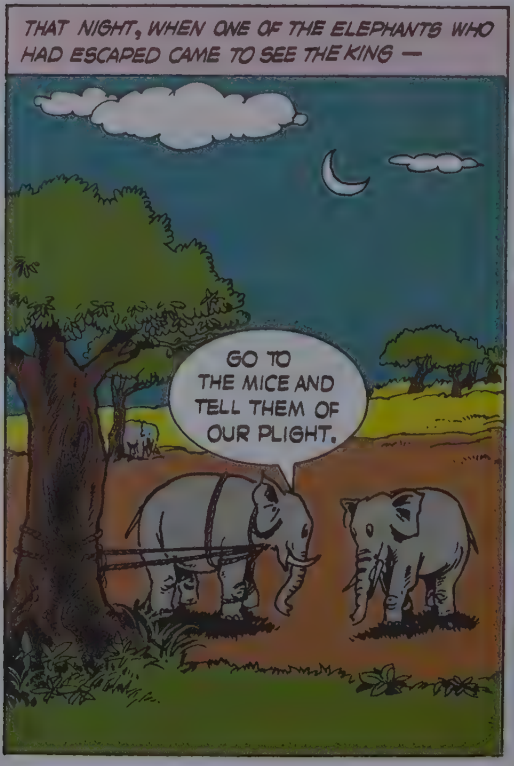

AMONG THE VICTIMS WERE A NUMBER OF MICE WHO HAD BURROWED A COLONY NEAR THE LAKE. LATER, THE MICE THAT HAD MANAGED TO ESCAPE, HELD A MEETING.

ONE OF THEM HAD AN IDEA.
WHY DON'T WE GO TO THE KING OF THE HERD AND REQUEST HIM NOT TO COME THIS WAY AGAIN?
AN EXCELLENT IDEA!
SO THEY WENT TO THE KING ELEPHANT.
O KING, WE HAVE BEEN LIVING NEAR THIS LAKE FOR GENERATIONS. WHILE YOUR HERD CAME CHARGING THIS WAY, IT TRAMPLED TO DEATH NEARLY HALF OUR CLAN. WE BEG OF YOU...
...HAVE MERCY ON US AND FIND SOME OTHER PATH TO AND FROM THE LAKE.
SPARE OUR LIVES. SMALL THOUGH WE ARE, SOME DAY WE MAY PROVE USEFUL TO YOU.
PAH! HOW CAN THESE TEENY-WEENY MICE BE USEFUL TO US?
BUT THE ELEPHANT WAS KIND-HEARTED.
SET YOUR MINDS AT REST. I SHALL TELL MY HERD TO TAKE ANOTHER PATH.
O KING, WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU. IF EVER YOU NEED US, WE SHALL BE WITH YOU.

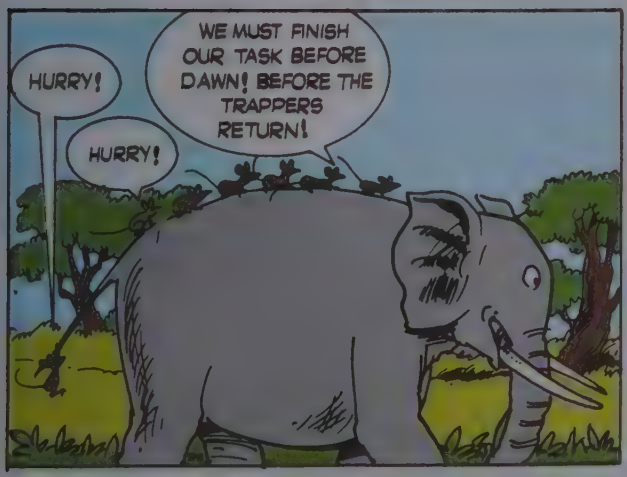

AS HE WATCHED THE GRATEFUL, HAPPY MICE SCAMPER AWAY, LITTLE DID THE KING ELEPHANT REALISE HOW SOON HE WOULD NEED THEM!
A FEW DAYS LATER, AS THE ELEPHANTS LUMBERED TOWARDS THE LAKE AS USUAL—
CHEEEE
IT'S A TRAP!
TAKE CARE!
TRAPPERS ON OUR TRAIL!
THREE DAYS LATER, THE TRAPPERS CAME.

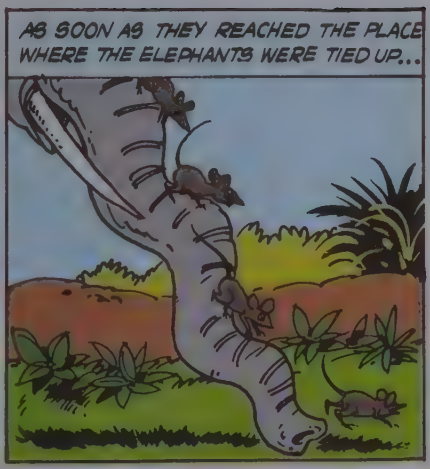

I WONDER HOW AND WITH WHOSE HELP WE WILL BE FREED; BUT FREE OURSELVES WE WILL.


SUDDENLY, HE REMEMBERED THE MICE.
MY FRIENDS THE MICE! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THEM EARLIER! BUT HOW SHALL I SEND A MESSAGE TO THEM?

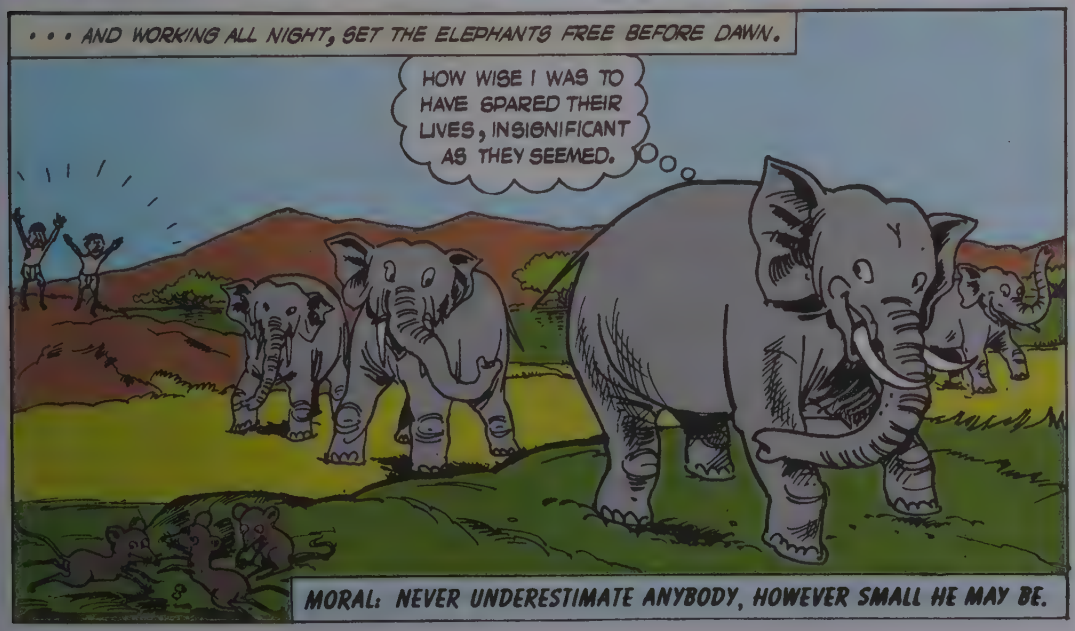

THAT NIGHT, WHEN ONE OF THE ELEPHANTS WHO HAD ESCAPED CAME TO SEE THE KING —
GO TO THE MICE AND TELL THEM OF OUR PLIGHT.

AS SOON AS THE MICE HEARD THE ELEPHANT'S STORY —
WE WILL COME RIGHT AWAY. LEAD US TO THEM.

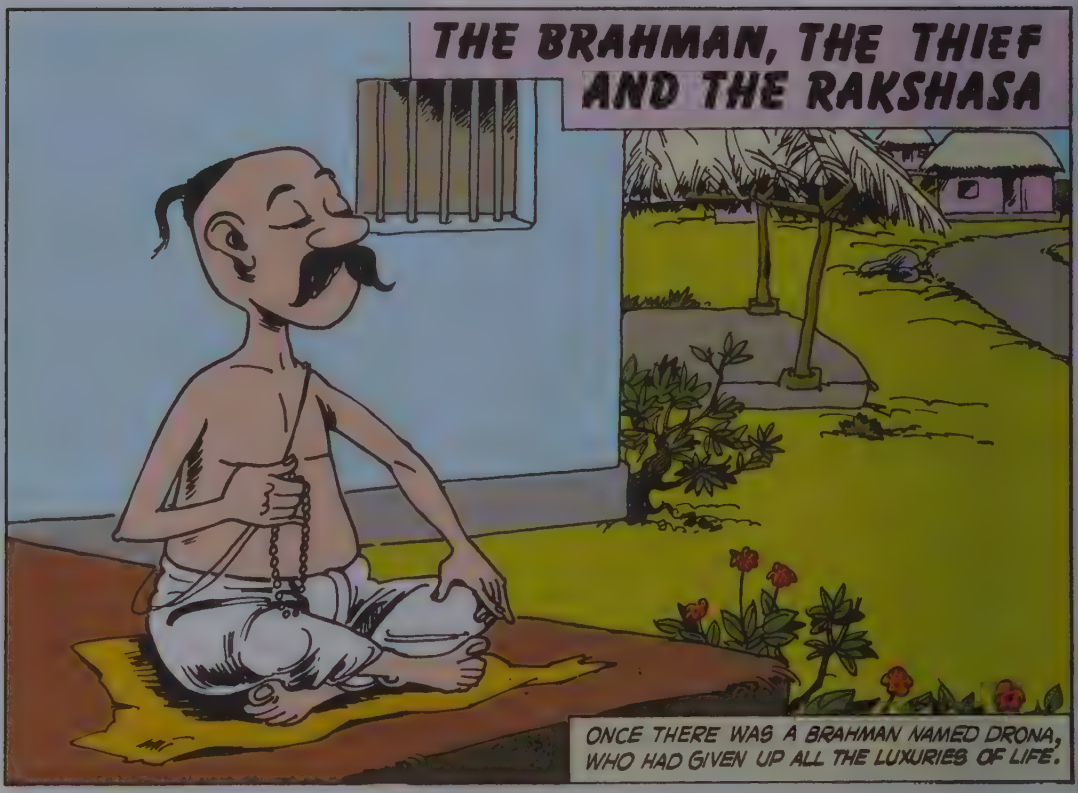

HURRY!
HURRY!
WE MUST FINISH OUR TASK BEFORE DAWN! BEFORE THE TRAPPERS RETURN!


AS SOON AS THEY REACHED THE PLACE WHERE THE ELEPHANTS WERE TIED UP...

... THEY GNAWED AWAY THE ROPES...


... AND WORKING ALL NIGHT, SET THE ELEPHANTS FREE BEFORE DAWN.
HOW WISE I WAS TO HAVE SPARED THEIR LIVES, INSIGNIFICANT AS THEY SEEMED.
MORAL: NEVER UNDERESTIMATE ANYBODY, HOWEVER SMALL HE MAY BE.

THE BRAHMAN, THE THIEF AND THE RAKSHASA



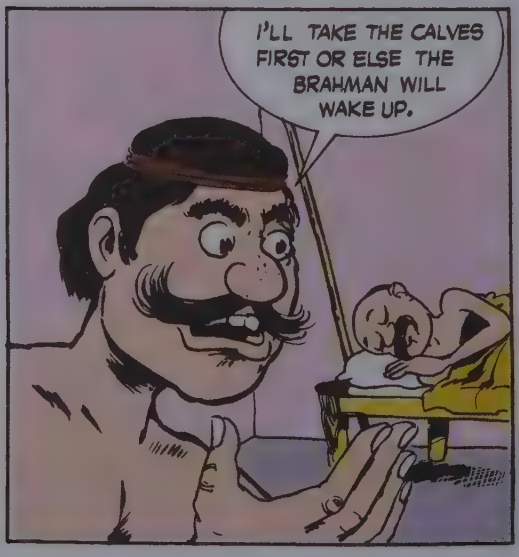
THE BRAHMAN FED THE CALVES ON BUTTER, OIL AND GRAIN. A THIEF NOTICED ALL THIS.
WHAT FAT CALVES! THIS VERY NIGHT, I SHALL STEAL THEM.

THAT NIGHT, AS HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO THE BRAHMAN'S HOUSE —
GOOD LORD! WHAT'S THIS?
I AM A RAKSHASA CALLED SATYAVACHANA. WHO ARE YOU?
I'M KRURAKARMA. I'M GOING TO STEAL TWO FAT CALVES FROM A POOR BRAHMAN.
I SEE. LET'S BE FRIENDS.
I'M VERY HUNGRY. I'LL EAT THE BRAHMAN WHILE YOU GET THE CALVES.
FINE! LET US GO!

SH! LET'S HIDE HERE AND WAIT.

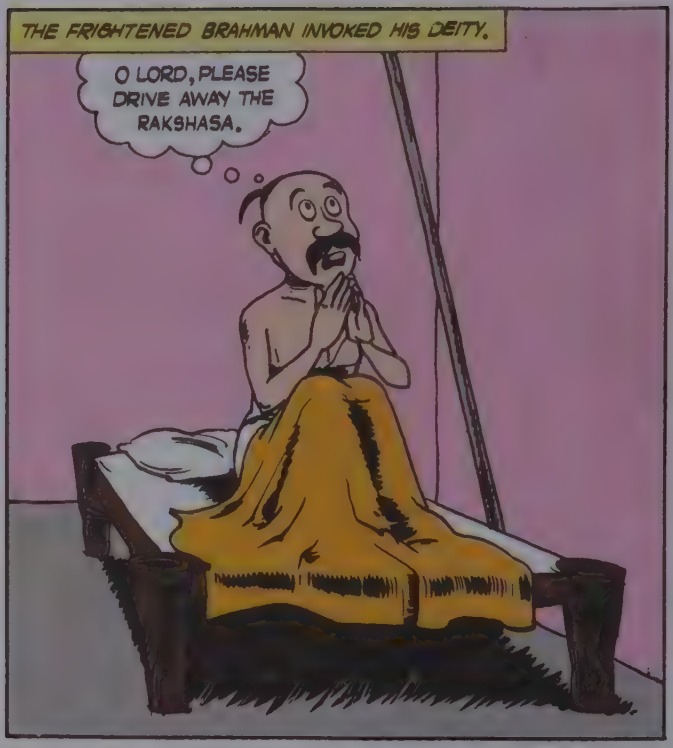
I CAN HARDLY WAIT!

WHEN THE BRAHMAN BEGAN SNORING, THEY ENTERED THE HOUSE.
LET ME EAT HIM NOW! I'M HUNGRY.
NO, NO, LET US WAIT.

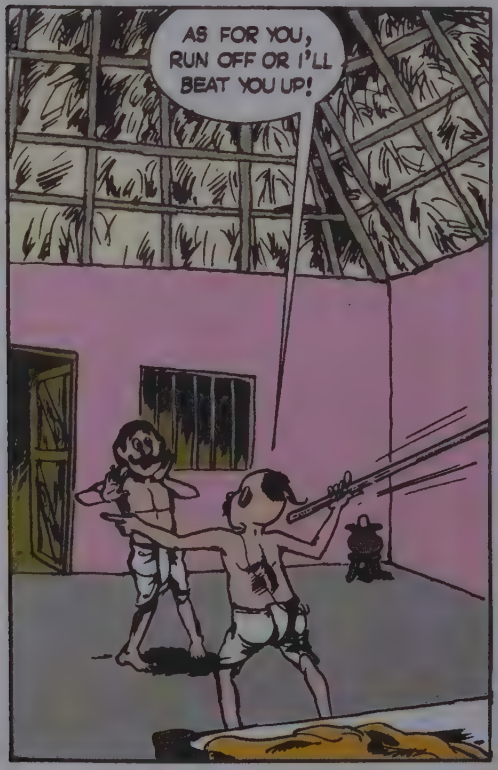

I'LL TAKE THE CALVES FIRST OR ELSE THE BRAHMAN WILL WAKE UP.

NO, NO! IF THE CALVES MOO, I'LL BE THE LOSER!

NO! I'LL TAKE THE CALVES FIRST!
NO! I'LL EAT THE BRAHMAN FIRST.
THE SOUND OF THEIR RAISED VOICES WOKE UP THE BRAHMAN.
WHAT'S THAT? WHO ARE YOU?
O BRAHMAN, THIS RAKSHASA WANTS TO EAT YOU!
THIS THIEF WANTS TO STEAL YOUR CALVES!

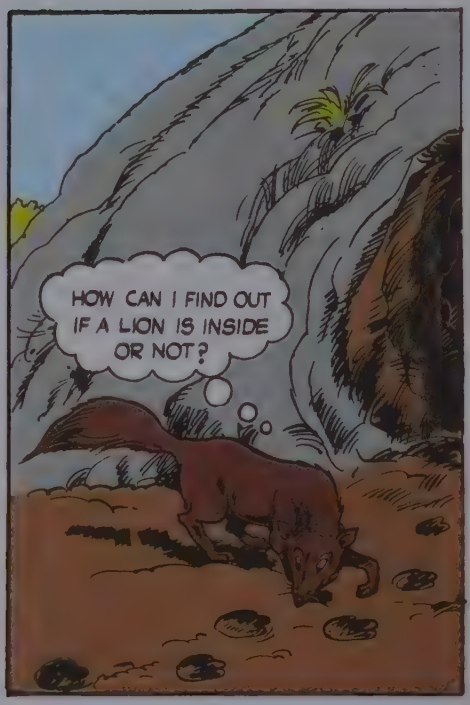

THE FRIGHTENED BRAHMAN INVOKED HIS DEITY.
O LORD, PLEASE DRIVE AWAY THE RAKSHASA.

IN AN INSTANT, THE RAKSHASA VANISHED.


AS FOR YOU, RUN OFF OR I'LL BEAT YOU UP!

THE THIEF IS GONE. THE CALVES ARE SAFE, AND I AM ALIVE! THANK GOD!
MORAL: WHEN YOUR ENEMIES QUARREL AMONGST THEMSELVES, YOU STAND TO GAIN.

THE LION, THE JACKAL AND THE CAVE
ONCE A LION CALLED KHARANAKHARA COULD NOT FIND ANYTHING TO EAT. HE WAS VERY HUNGRY.
ANOTHER DAY OF STARVATION! I CAN'T BEAR IT ANY MORE.
AT SUNSET, HE REACHED A BIG CAVE.
SOME ANIMAL MUST BE LIVING IN THIS CAVE. I'LL GO IN AND AWAIT ITS RETURN.
AS THE LION WAITED INSIDE THE CAVE, A JACKAL ARRIVED.
STRANGE! A LION'S FOOTPRINTS, LEADING INTO MY CAVE BUT NONE COMING OUT.


HOW CAN I FIND OUT IF A LION IS INSIDE OR NOT?

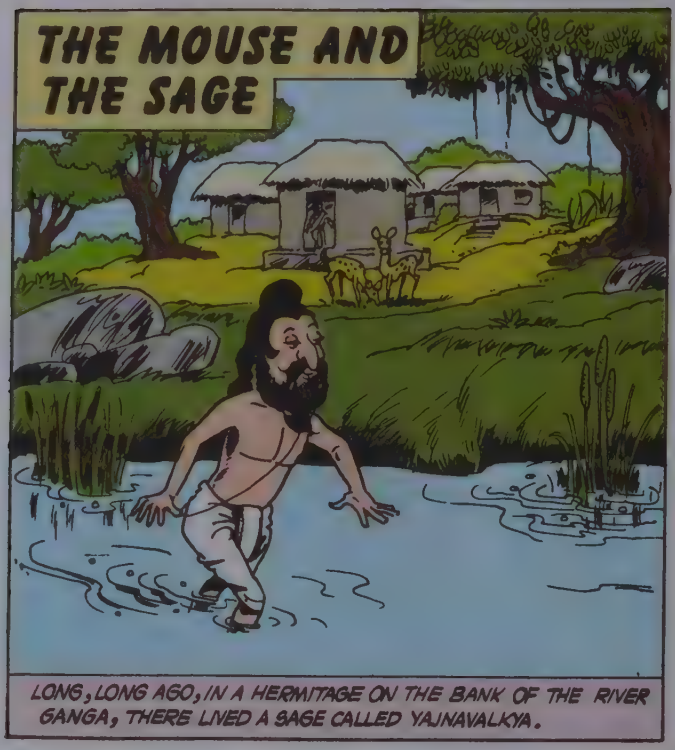
I HAVE IT!
HELLO, CAVE!

WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER? IF YOU DON'T, I'LL GO ELSEWHERE.

WHEN THE LION HEARD THIS —
WHY DOESN'T THE CAVE REPLY? IS HE AFRAID OF ME?

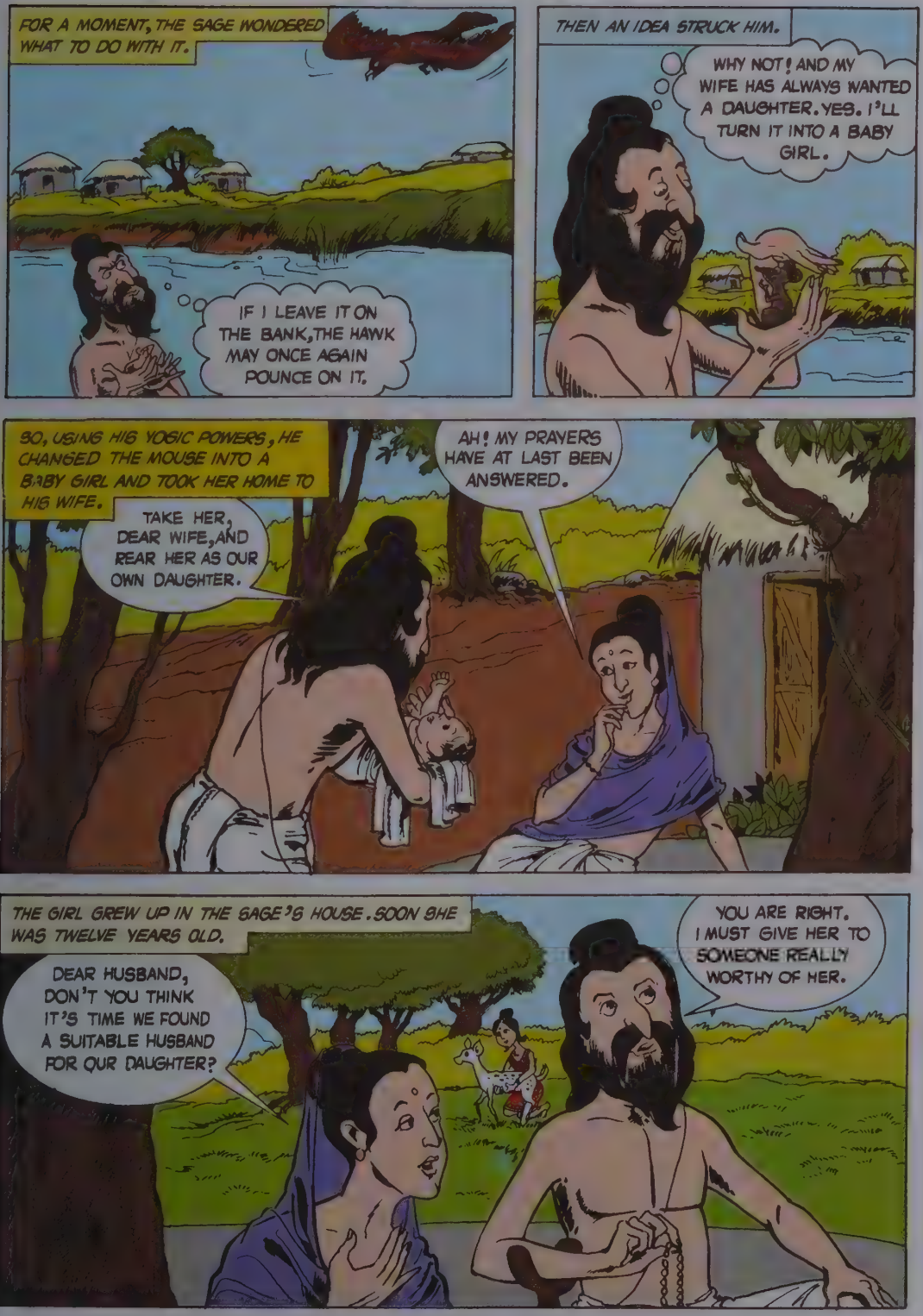
I'D BETTER ANSWER FOR THE CAVE OR THE JACKAL MAY GO AWAY AND I'LL LOSE MY DINNER!

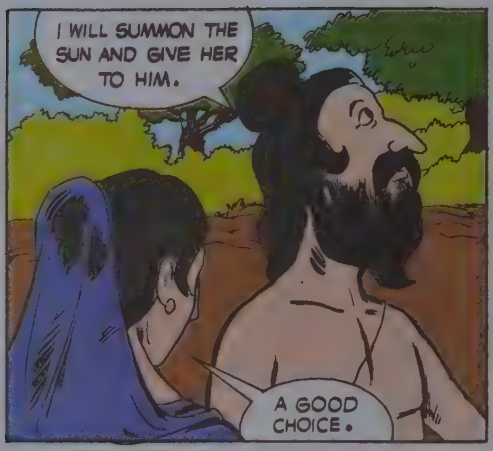
HELLO JACKAL. IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO COME IN. PLEASE DO!
AS THE LION WAITED FOR A REPLY...
...THE FRIGHTENED JACKAL RAN TO SAFETY.
I'VE GROWN OLD IN THIS CAVE BUT NEVER BEFORE DID IT TALK!
MORAL: TO BE FOREWARNED IS TO BE FOREARMED.

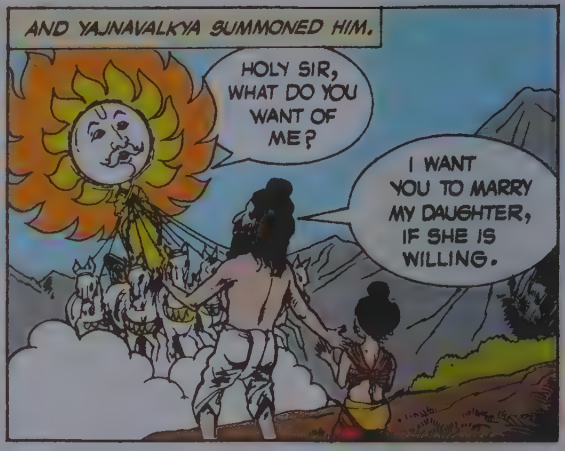

THE MOUSE AND THE SAGE
LONG, LONG AGO, IN A HERMITAGE ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER GANGA, THERE LIVED A SAGE CALLED YAJNAVALKYA.

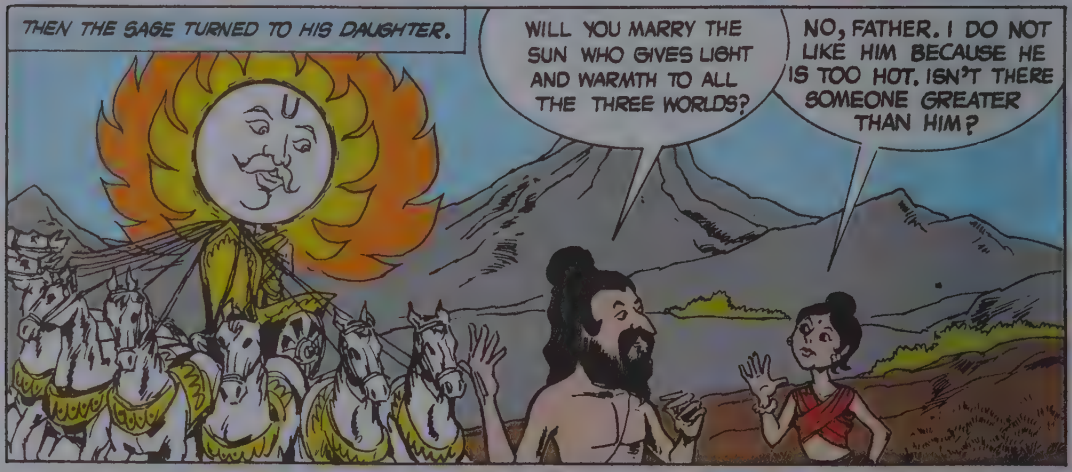
ONE DAY AS YAJNAVALKYA WAS SAYING HIS PRAYERS IN THE SACRED STREAM—

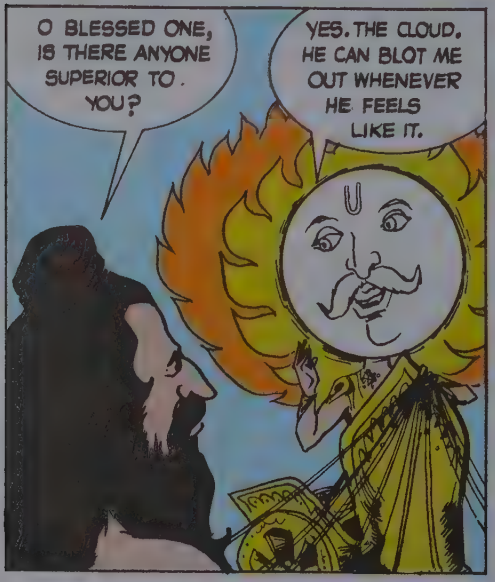
WHAT'S THIS! A MOUSE!

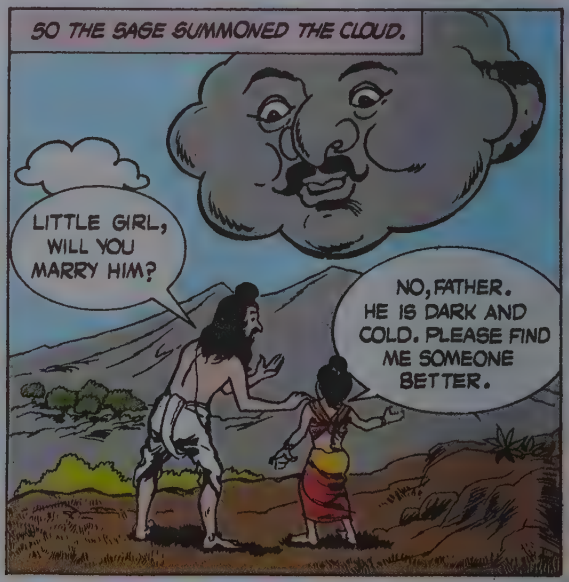

FOR A MOMENT, THE SAGE WONDERED WHAT TO DO WITH IT.
IF I LEAVE IT ON THE BANK, THE HAWK MAY ONCE AGAIN POUNCE ON IT.
THEN AN IDEA STRUCK HIM.
WHY NOT! AND MY WIFE HAS ALWAYS WANTED A DAUGHTER. YES. I'LL TURN IT INTO A BABY GIRL.
SO, USING HIS YOGIC POWERS, HE CHANGED THE MOUSE INTO A BABY GIRL AND TOOK HER HOME TO HIS WIFE.
TAKE HER, DEAR WIFE, AND REAR HER AS OUR OWN DAUGHTER.
AH! MY PRAYERS HAVE AT LAST BEEN ANSWERED.
THE GIRL GREW UP IN THE SAGE'S HOUSE. SOON SHE WAS TWELVE YEARS OLD.
DEAR HUSBAND, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME WE FOUND A SUITABLE HUSBAND FOR OUR DAUGHTER?
YOU ARE RIGHT. I MUST GIVE HER TO SOMEONE REALLY WORTHY OF HER.

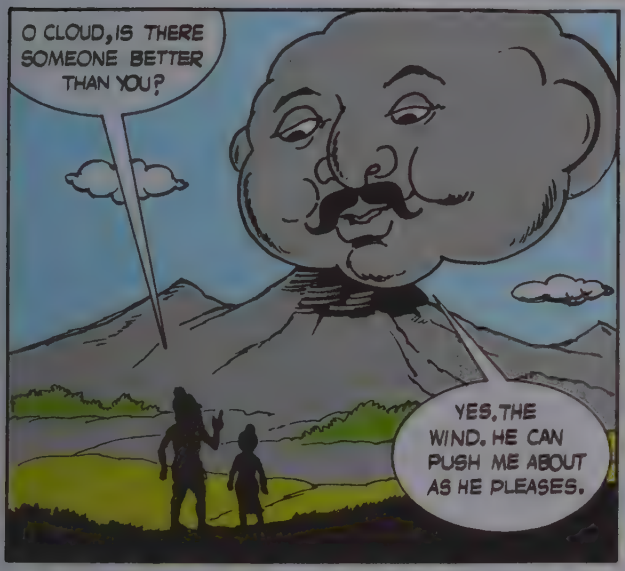

I WILL SUMMON THE SUN AND GIVE HER TO HIM.
A GOOD CHOICE.


AND YAJNAVALKYA SUMMONED HIM.
HOLY SIR, WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?
I WANT YOU TO MARRY MY DAUGHTER, IF SHE IS WILLING.

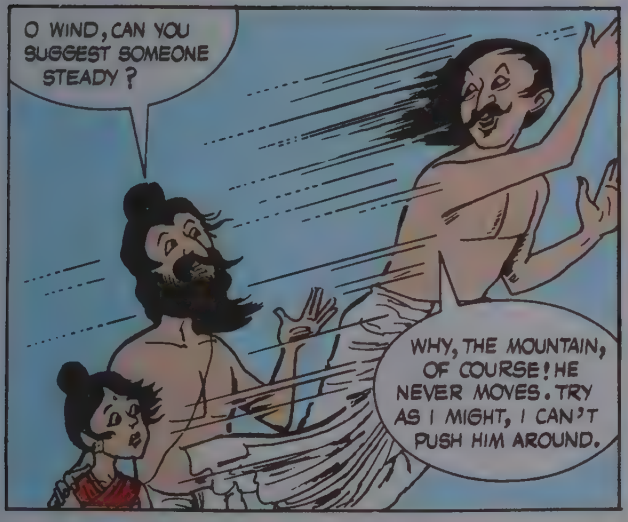

THEN THE SAGE TURNED TO HIS DAUGHTER.
WILL YOU MARRY THE SUN WHO GIVES LIGHT AND WARMTH TO ALL THE THREE WORLDS?
NO, FATHER. I DO NOT LIKE HIM BECAUSE HE IS TOO HOT. ISN'T THERE SOMEONE GREATER THAN HIM?


O BLESSED ONE, IS THERE ANYONE SUPERIOR TO YOU?
YES. THE CLOUD. HE CAN BLOT ME OUT WHENEVER HE FEELS LIKE IT.

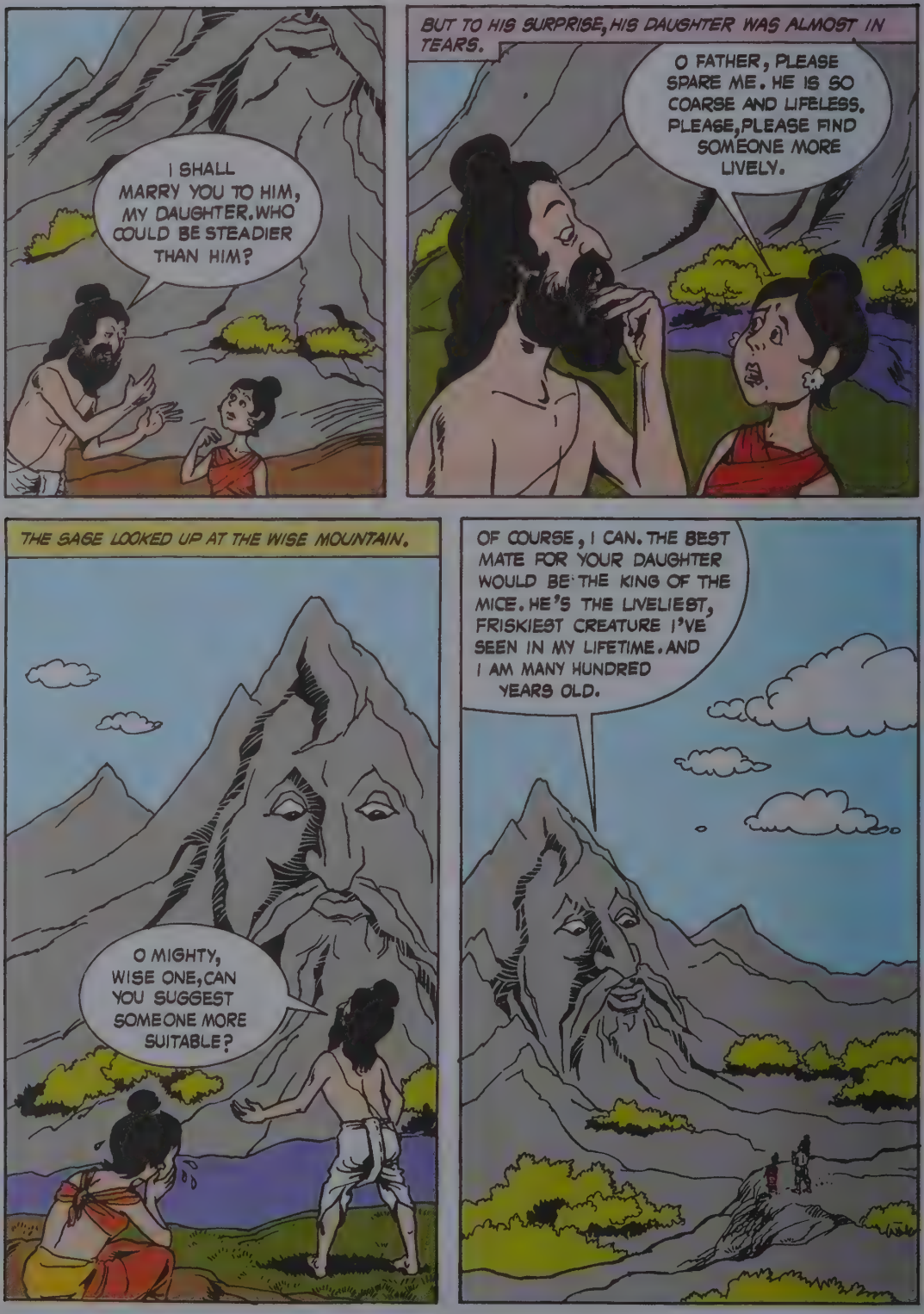

SO THE SAGE SUMMONED THE CLOUD.
LITTLE GIRL, WILL YOU MARRY HIM?
NO, FATHER. HE IS DARK AND COLD. PLEASE FIND ME SOMEONE BETTER.

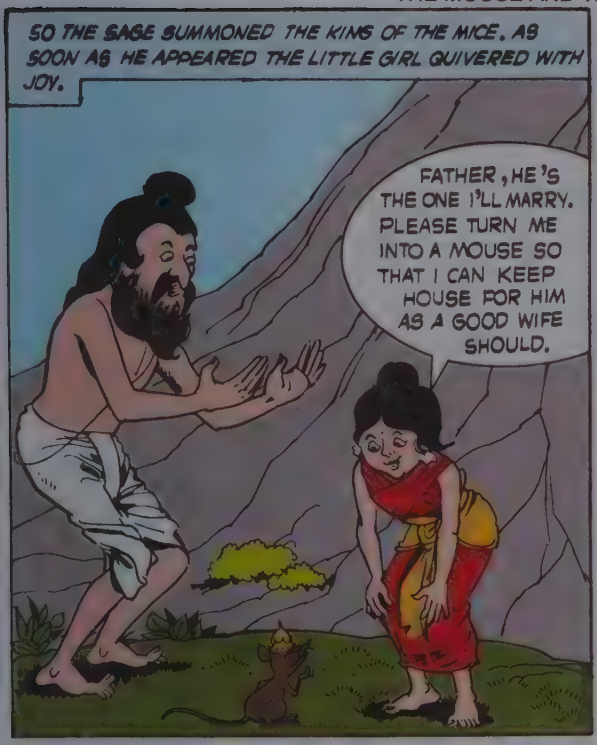

O CLOUD, IS THERE SOMEONE BETTER THAN YOU?
YES, THE WIND. HE CAN PUSH ME ABOUT AS HE PLEASES.

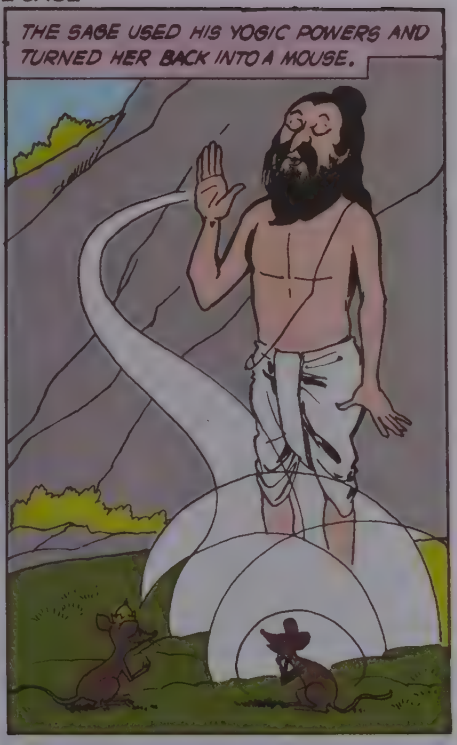
SO THE WIND WAS SUMMONED. BUT THE LITTLE GIRL DIDN'T WANT HIM EITHER.
I'M SORRY, FATHER. HOW CAN I MARRY HIM? HE'S ALWAYS RESTLESS.


O WIND, CAN YOU SUGGEST SOMEONE STEADY?
WHY, THE MOUNTAIN, OF COURSE! HE NEVER MOVES. TRY AS I MIGHT, I CAN'T PUSH HIM AROUND.

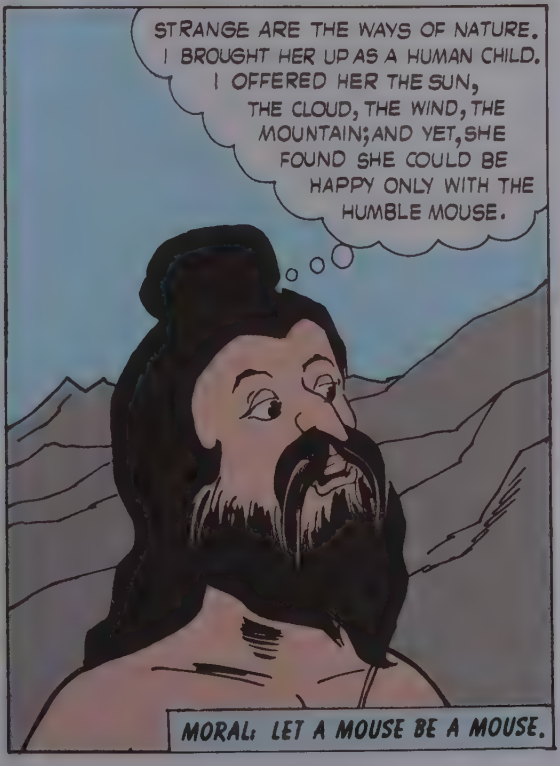
SO THE SAGE TOOK HIS DAUGHTER TO THE MOUNTAIN.
O MOUNTAIN! WILL YOU ACCEPT MY DAUGHTER FOR A WIFE?
GLADLY, O SAGE.


I SHALL MARRY YOU TO HIM, MY DAUGHTER. WHO COULD BE STEADIER THAN HIM?
BUT TO HIS SURPRISE, HIS DAUGHTER WAS ALMOST IN TEARS.
O FATHER, PLEASE SPARE ME. HE IS SO COARSE AND LIFELESS. PLEASE, PLEASE FIND SOMEONE MORE LIVELY.
THE SAGE LOOKED UP AT THE WISE MOUNTAIN.
O MIGHTY, WISE ONE, CAN YOU SUGGEST SOMEONE MORE SUITABLE?
OF COURSE, I CAN. THE BEST MATE FOR YOUR DAUGHTER WOULD BE THE KING OF THE MICE. HE'S THE LIVELIEST, FRISKIEST CREATURE I'VE SEEN IN MY LIFETIME. AND I AM MANY HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

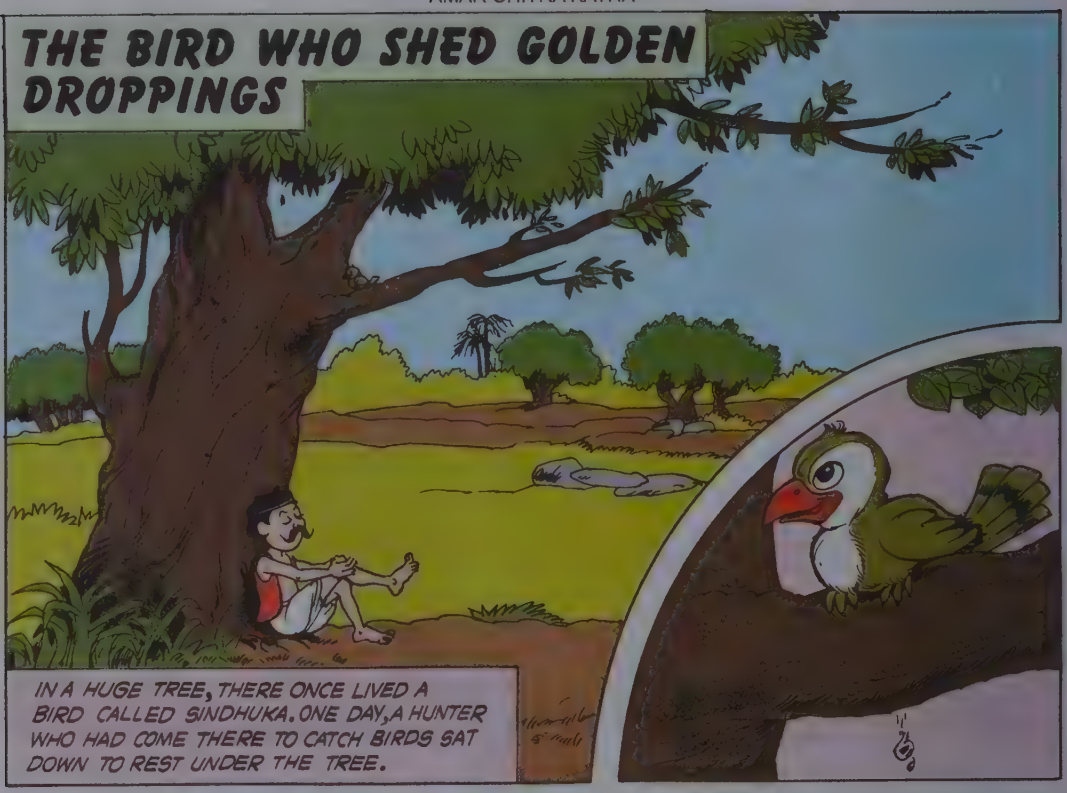

SO THE SAGE SUMMONED THE KING OF THE MICE. AS SOON AS HE APPEARED THE LITTLE GIRL QUIVERED WITH JOY.
FATHER, HE'S THE ONE I'LL MARRY. PLEASE TURN ME INTO A MOUSE SO THAT I CAN KEEP HOUSE FOR HIM AS A GOOD WIFE SHOULD.


THE SAGE USED HIS YOGIC POWERS AND TURNED HER BACK INTO A MOUSE.

HE THEN GAVE HER IN MARRIAGE TO THE KING OF THE MICE.

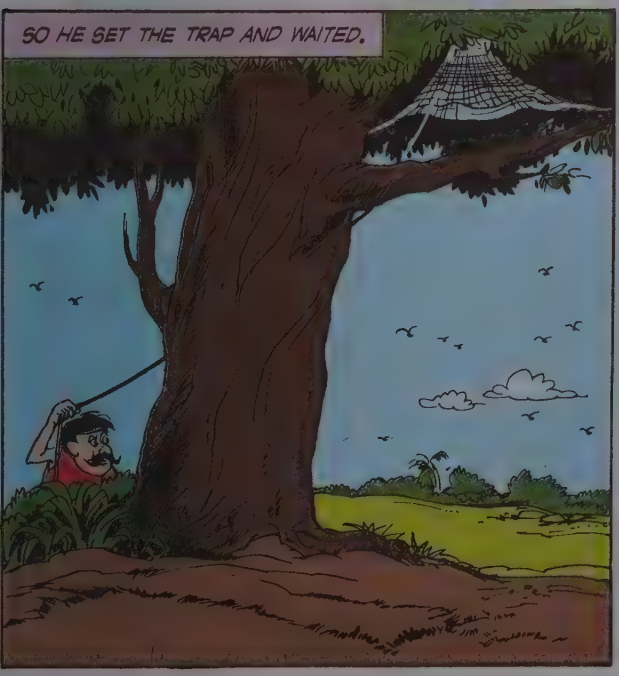

STRANGE ARE THE WAYS OF NATURE. I BROUGHT HER UP AS A HUMAN CHILD. I OFFERED HER THE SUN, THE CLOUD, THE WIND, THE MOUNTAIN; AND YET, SHE FOUND SHE COULD BE HAPPY ONLY WITH THE HUMBLE MOUSE.
MORAL: LET A MOUSE BE A MOUSE.

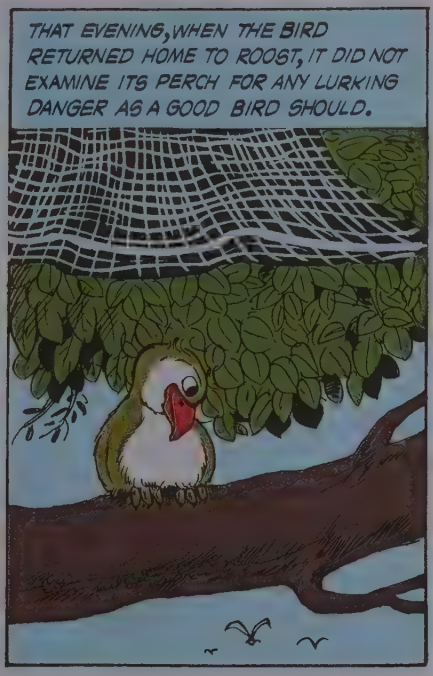
THE BIRD WHO SHED GOLDEN DROPPINGS


IN A HUGE TREE, THERE ONCE LIVED A BIRD CALLED SINDHUKA. ONE DAY, A HUNTER WHO HAD COME THERE TO CATCH BIRDS SAT DOWN TO REST UNDER THE TREE.

NEVER HAVE I SEEN THIS KIND OF THING BEFORE. I MUST CATCH THAT BIRD.

JUST THEN THE BIRD FLEW AWAY.
AH! THAT MUST BE THE BRANCH WHERE IT USUALLY SITS. I'LL SET A TRAP RIGHT WHERE IT WAS PERCHING.


SO HE SET THE TRAP AND WAITED.


THAT EVENING, WHEN THE BIRD RETURNED HOME TO ROOST, IT DID NOT EXAMINE ITS PERCH FOR ANY LURKING DANGER AS A GOOD BIRD SHOULD.

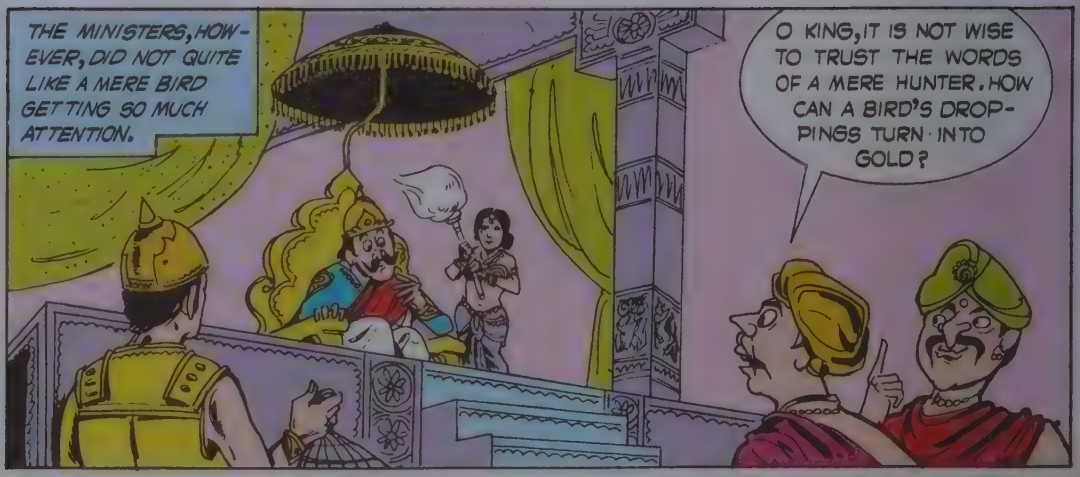
THE NEXT MOMENT, THE NET HAD FALLEN OVER IT.
THE HUNTER PUT THE BIRD INTO A CAGE.
I'LL TAKE HIM HOME. I'LL NEVER HAVE TO HUNT AGAIN.
ON THE WAY HOME, HOWEVER, HE HAD SECOND THOUGHTS.
SUPPOSING SOME-ONE SEES IT AND TELLS THE KING.
THE KING WOULD BE ANGRY WITH ME FOR NOT TELLING HIM ABOUT IT.

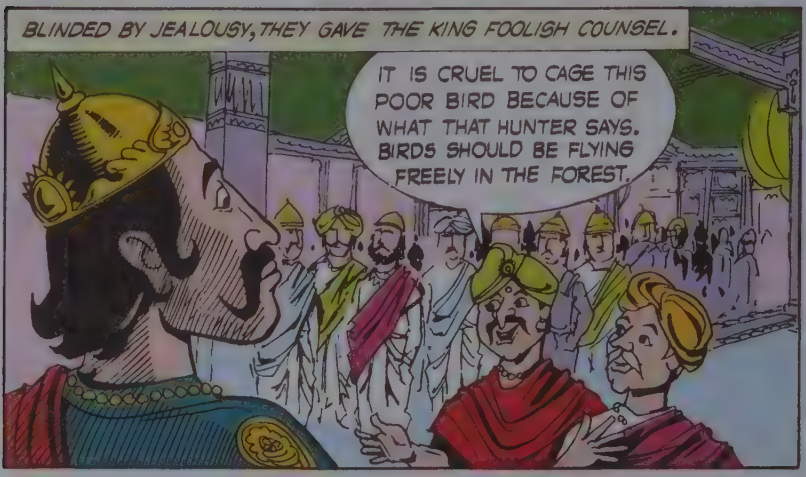
HE MIGHT EVEN BEHEAD ME! NO, MY LIFE IS WORTH MORE THAN ALL THE GOLD IN THE WORLD.

THE HUNTER WAS CONVINCED THAT HIS LIFE WOULD BE IN DANGER IF HE KEPT THE BIRD.
I'LL TAKE THE BIRD TO THE KING AND SAVE MY LIFE!

AT THE PALACE—
YOUR MAJESTY, I HAVE BROUGHT YOU A RARE GIFT. THE DROPPINGS OF THIS BIRD TURN INTO GOLD THE MOMENT THEY TOUCH SOMETHING.

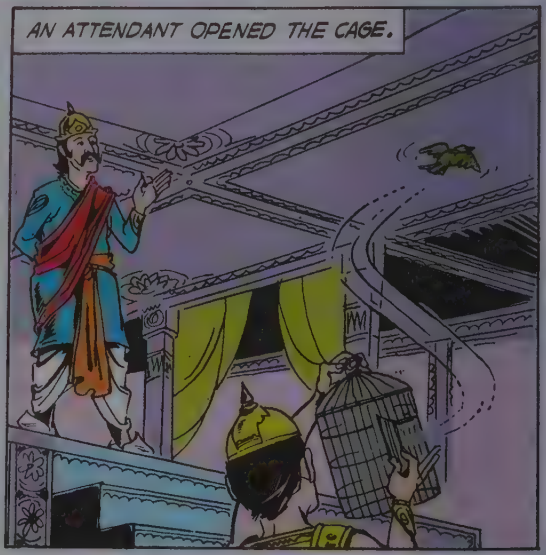
THE KING WAS DELIGHTED WITH HIS GIFT. HE TURNED TO HIS ATTENDANTS—
LOOK AFTER THIS BIRD WITH THE UTMOST CARE. GIVE HIM WHATEVER HE WANTS TO EAT AND DRINK.

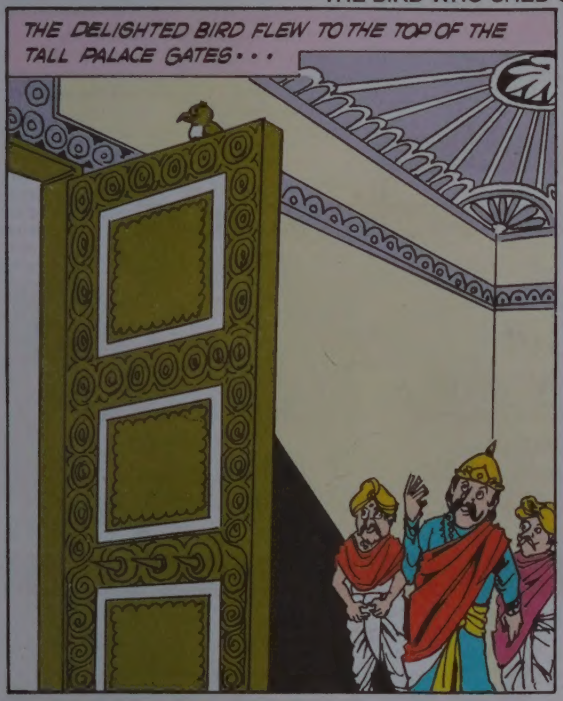

THE MINISTERS, HOWEVER, DID NOT QUITE LIKE A MERE BIRD GETTING SO MUCH ATTENTION.
O KING, IT IS NOT WISE TO TRUST THE WORDS OF A MERE HUNTER. HOW CAN A BIRD'S DROPPINGS TURN INTO GOLD?


BLINDED BY JEALOUSY, THEY GAVE THE KING FOOLISH COUNSEL.
IT IS CRUEL TO CAGE THIS POOR BIRD BECAUSE OF WHAT THAT HUNTER SAYS. BIRDS SHOULD BE FLYING FREELY IN THE FOREST.

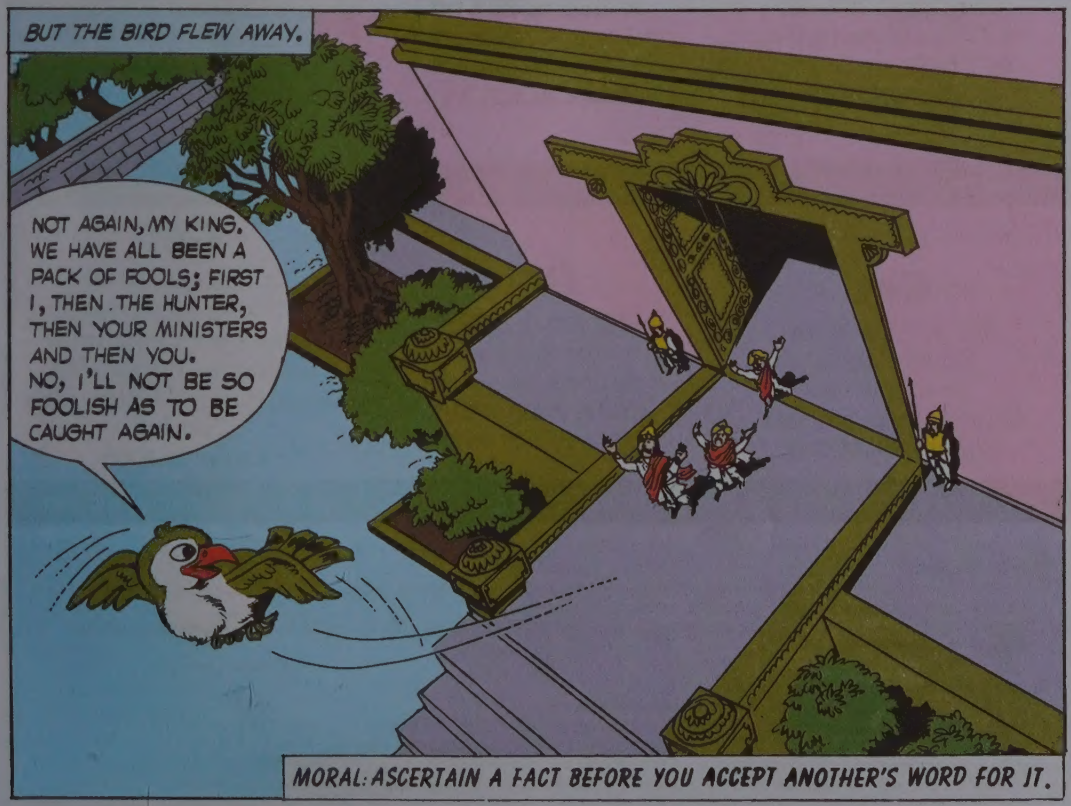
HOW RIGHT THEY ARE!

THE FOOLISH KING TRUSTED THE MINISTER'S WORDS WITHOUT FINDING OUT THE FACTS FOR HIMSELF.
ALL RIGHT, THEN SET IT FREE.


AN ATTENDANT OPENED THE CAGE.


THE DELIGHTED BIRD FLEW TO THE TOP OF THE TALL PALACE GATES...

...AND PERCHING HIMSELF THERE, LET FALL HIS DROPPINGS.
WHY! THE DROPPINGS HAVE, INDEED, TURNED TO GOLD! FOOLS THAT WE ARE! QUICK! GET THE BIRD.


BUT THE BIRD FLEW AWAY.
NOT AGAIN, MY KING. WE HAVE ALL BEEN A PACK OF FOOLS; FIRST I, THEN THE HUNTER, THEN YOUR MINISTERS AND THEN YOU. NO, I'LL NOT BE SO FOOLISH AS TO BE CAUGHT AGAIN.
MORAL: ASCERTAIN A FACT BEFORE YOU ACCEPT ANOTHER'S WORD FOR IT.

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TALES FROM THE PANCHATANTRA

A Brahmin is fooled because he trusts the words of another before his own.

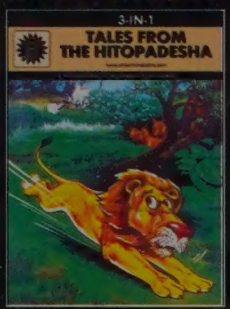
A mighty leopard learns, to his misfortune, that his brawn is no match for the brain of a clever jackal.

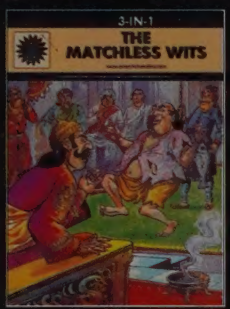
A school of fish realise that one who smiles and smiles can still be a villain.

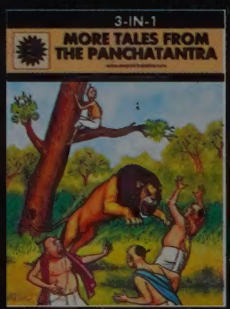
Philosophy, psychology and statecraft – none of them seem difficult when explained through the escapades of humans and talking animals.

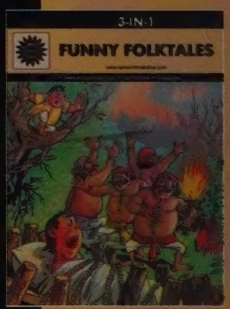
The original Sanskrit text of the Panchatantra was probably written around 200 BC, by the great scholar, Vishnu Sharma. It has since been translated into over 50 international languages.

OTHER 3-IN-1s:









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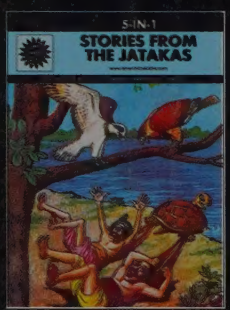

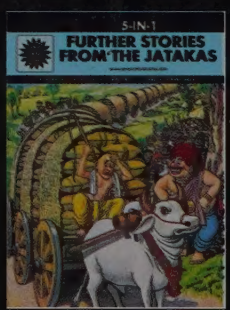

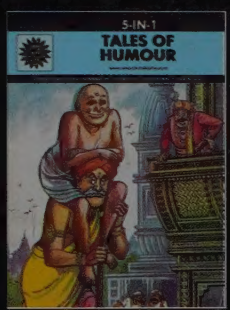

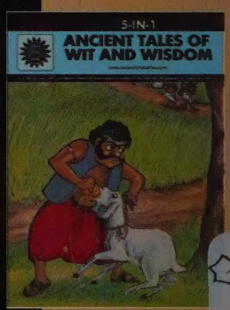

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